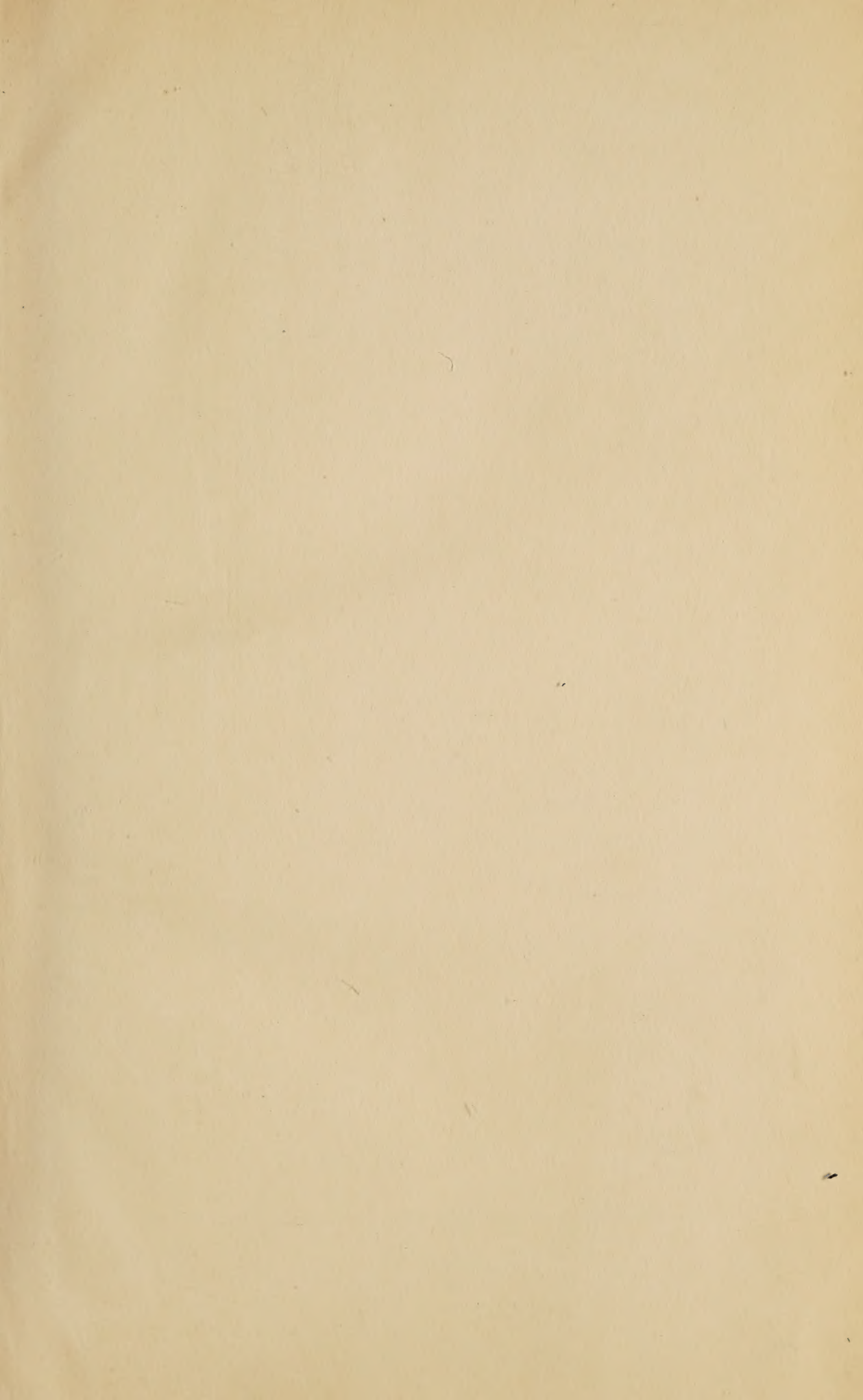


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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

TWENTY-EIGHT VOLUMES.

—(27.)—

SLAVE TRADE.

Session

12 December 1854—14 August 1855.

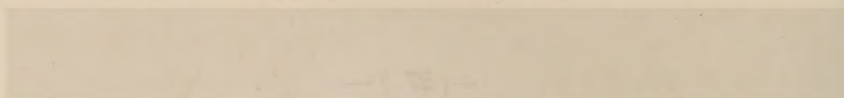
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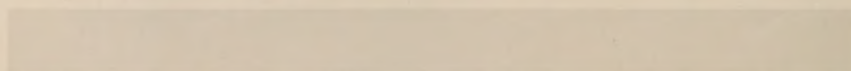
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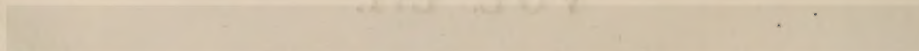


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Session
12 December 1854—14 August 1855.



VOL. III



1854-55

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WITH THE

BRITISH COMMISSIONERS

AT

SIERRA LEONE, HAVANA, THE CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE, AND LOANDA;

AND

REPORTS FROM

BRITISH VICE-ADMIRALTY COURTS,

AND FROM

BRITISH NAVAL OFFICERS,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From April 1, 1854, to March 31, 1855.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1855.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

BRITISH COMMISSIONERS.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 1.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854.

WITH reference to the order which was issued by Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge at Sierra Leone on the 3rd of February, 1852,* directing, with regard to all vessels which might be condemned by the Mixed Courts, that the hulls of those vessels should be burnt, after being cut up, I have to inform you that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having expressed a doubt as to the legality of the destruction by burning of the hulls of slavers condemned by the Mixed Courts, I referred the question to Her Majesty's Advocate-General for his opinion thereupon, and the Queen's Advocate has reported that he considers that such a proceeding is not in accordance with the stipulations of the Treaties under which the Mixed Commission Courts are established.

I now transmit to you herewith a copy of an Order which has been drawn up by the Queen's Advocate, providing for the effectual destruction of the hulls of condemned slavers, without resorting to the process of burning them; and I have to desire that you will cause the inclosed Order to be substituted for that which was issued by Her Majesty's Acting Judge on the 3rd of February, 1852, and that you will give directions that its provisions shall be strictly adhered to with regard to the hulls of all vessels which may be condemned by the Mixed Commission Courts at Sierra Leone.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See Class A, presented 1852, No. 6.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Order.

IN the Mixed Courts of Justice established pursuant to the existing Treaties for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, between Great Britain and the Netherlands, Spain, the Argentine Confederation, Uruguay, and Chile:

It is hereby ordered, that the hulls of all vessels condemned by any of the said Courts be forthwith, after condemnation, entirely and effectually broken up in several parts or pieces, so as to prevent all possibility of the reconstruction thereof, and in particular that each of the ribs, and of the timbers of such vessels, be sawn or cut across into two or more separate pieces, and that all the materials originally composing the same shall, after the said vessels shall have been so broken up as aforesaid, be sold in different and separate parts. All persons acting as Registrars, Marshals, Commissioners of Sales, or in any other office, either under the authority of the said Courts or any of them, or in Her Majesty's service, or in any official or public capacity, are to use the utmost personal care and diligence herein, and will each be held strictly and personally responsible for the due and complete execution of this Order in all cases, and without any exception whatsoever.

No. 2.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to Lord Wodehouse.—
(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no case has come before the British and Netherlands, British and Spanish, British and Argentine, British and Uruguayan, British and Bolivian, nor the British and Chilean Mixed Courts of Justice established in this Colony, for the prevention of the illicit Traffic in Slaves, during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, *Governor.*

No. 3.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been emancipated, and consequently that none have been registered by the Courts of Mixed Commission at this station during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, *Governor.*

No. 4.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information, a return of the only vessel captured for being engaged in the Slave Trade, and prosecuted in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony, between the 1st of January and the 30th of June, 1854, under the Act 2 & 3 Vict., cap. 73.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, *Governor.*

Inclosure in No. 4.

RETURN of VESSELS captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and adjudicated by the Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone, from 1st January to 30th June, 1854.

Name of Vessel.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured.	Property seized.	Name of Seizor.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured	Number died before Adjudication.	Total Number emancipated.	Foreign according to the papers.	Tonnage.		Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	Statute under which Sentence was passed, Prosecution instituted.	Whether the property condemned has been sold or converted, and where sold, and in whose hands the proceeds remain.	Remarks.
												Old Ad-measure-	English. New Ad-measure-				
Manuelita	No flag ...	Unknown	May 23 1854	Elo Ponga	Schooner and stores	Reginald McDonald, Commander of H.M. sloop-of-war "Ferret".	June 5 1854		None		..	Under Statute 8 & 9 Vict., c. 89, sec. 16, sec. 19.	1153½ 112½	Forfeiture.	7 & 3 Vic. c. 73.	The hull of the vessel was broken up and entirely demolished. The materials and stores sold by public auction. Proceeds at present in the hands of the Marshal.	This vessel was found fully equipped for the Slave Trade. The only papers found on board were two letters from the supposed captain to the mate of the vessel.

(Signed)

GEO. W. NICOL, Acting Registrar.

No. 5.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, July 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st of May last, informing me that the question respecting the burning of the hulls of slavers condemned by the Mixed Courts having been referred to Her Majesty's Advocate-General for his opinion thereon, the Queen's Advocate has reported that such a proceeding is not in accordance with the stipulations of the Treaties under which the Mixed Commission Courts are established.

And I have now to report that, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, the order drawn up by the Queen's Advocate for the effectual destruction of condemned slave-vessels, without resorting to the process of burning, has been substituted for that which was issued by Her Majesty's Acting Judge at this place of the 3rd of February, 1852; and that I shall take care that its provisions be strictly adhered to.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, *Governor.*

No. 6.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, July 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the British and Foreign Commissioners have granted six months' leave of absence to Mr. R. A. Oldfield, Marshal to these Mixed Courts, to visit England for the reestablishment of his health.

Mr. Oldfield accordingly availed himself of his leave by the mail-packet "Bacchante," which sailed on the 22nd instant.

The acting appointment of Marshal has, in the meantime, been conferred on Mr. John Mallard, R.N., Harbour Master of this Port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, *Governor.*

No. 7.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Weston.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith Her Majesty's Commission appointing you Arbitrator in the Mixed Commission Courts of Justice at Sierra Leone, under the Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and also appointing Mr. William Smith to be Secretary or Registrar in those Courts; and I have to instruct you to avail yourself of the earliest opportunity which may occur to take the oath for the due execution of your said office, according to the form prescribed in the various Acts of Parliament for carrying into effect the Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

You will also cause Mr. Smith to take the necessary oath to enable him to enter upon the duties of his office.

I think it right to add, that although the issue of this Commission under the Queen's sign-manual has been delayed in consequence of the office of Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at Sierra Leone having been vacant, your period of service as Arbitrator will date from the 30th of September, 1850, as stated in Mr. Addington's letter to you of the 15th of December, 1851; and you will inform Mr. Smith that his period of service will date from the same day as yours, in conformity with Mr. Addington's letter to him of the 15th of December, 1851.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 8.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Weston.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I have called the attention of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the fact that the exportation of slaves from the west coast of Africa has been greatly increased in consequence of the reduced strength of the British squadron on that coast; and I have to inform you that their Lordships have stated in reply, that the squadron has been reinforced, and that other ships will be sent out from time to time, as the exigencies of the service will permit.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 9.

*The Acting Governor of Sierra Leone to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received December 14.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, October 20, 1854.

THE government of this Colony having devolved upon me, in consequence of the departure for England of Governor Kennedy, I have the honour to report to your Lordship, that in the absence of a Commissary Judge in the Mixed Commissions established here, I have, by virtue of my office, filled that situation, in compliance with the existing Treaties, by taking the oath of office as Her Majesty's Commissary Judge *ad interim*, on the 13th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. DOUGAN.

No. 10.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 5, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 16, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship my arrival in this colony by the African mail contract steamer "Candace," on the morning of the 13th instant, on return from leave of absence.

I have also the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the same day, of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, transmitting Her Majesty's Commission, dated the 18th November, 1854, appointing me Arbitrator, and Mr. William Smith, Secretary or Registrar, in the several Mixed Courts of Justice established in this Colony, under the Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

In obedience to the instructions therein conveyed, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that on the day of my arrival I took before his Honour Chief Justice Carr, being the principal magistrate of the Colony, the usual oath for the due execution of the office of Arbitrator, according to the form prescribed in the various Acts of Parliament for carrying into effect the Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade; after which, in the absence of a Judge, and in conformity with the said Treaties and Acts of Parliament, I assumed the office of Judge *ad interim*, in all the Mixed Courts, excepting that of the Netherlands, by taking the necessary oath.

On the following morning, Mr. Smith was sworn in before me, as Secretary or Registrar in the said Courts, with the exception of the Netherlands, in which Court his Excellency the Acting Governor, as Acting British Judge, administered the oath to that officer.

I have informed Mr. Smith, as desired by your Lordship, that his period of service, in conjunction with mine, will date from the 30th September, 1850, in conformity with Lord Stanley of Alderley's despatch of the 15th of December, 1851.

These appointments have been duly announced to the Chevalier A. de Guillemar d'Aragon, Her Catholic Majesty's Judge *ad interim*, the only Foreign Commissioner residing in this Colony.

It has not been deemed necessary to swear in his Excellency the Acting Governor, as Acting British Arbitrator, in consequence of there being at present no case before any of the Mixed Courts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 11.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to Lord Wodehouse.—
(Received February 5.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no case has come before the British and Netherlands, British and Spanish, British and Argentine, British and Uruguayan, British and Bolivian, British and Chilian, nor the British and Equatorial Mixed Courts of Justice established in this Colony for the prevention of the illicit Traffic in Slaves, during the half-year ending the 31st December, 1854.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 12.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to Lord Wodehouse.—
(Received February 5.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been emancipated, and, consequently, that none have been registered, by the Courts of Mixed Commission at this station during the half-year ending the 31st December, 1854.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 13.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 5.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, January 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that, during my absence from this Colony, Governor Kennedy suspended Dr. Aitkin from the office of Colonial Surgeon, which his Excellency afterwards, as Her Majesty's Commissary Judge *ad interim*, extended to the appointment held by that gentleman as Surgeon to these Mixed Courts. This suspension, I am informed, has been subsequently confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies; but, previous to the receipt of such confirmation, Dr. Aitkin sailed for England.

On my arrival here I found, by the records of the registry of these Mixed Courts, that on the 6th of September last, his Excellency had nominated Mr. Henry Deane, a medical practitioner of this place, to the temporary appointment of Surgeon, and had ordered his salary to commence from that date.

This appointment having been made by Governor Kennedy, and there being no record in Her Majesty's Commissioners' Office of the same having been notified to your Lordship, I think it my duty to report it, and respectfully to request that it may be confirmed, should it be approved of by your Lordship.

The mode of remunerating any officer holding the appointment in question, is by certificates issued in triplicate at the end of every quarter, under the seal of the Mixed Commissions, that the Surgeon has been ready to perform, or had performed, the duties required of him, and I have, therefore, signed the necessary certificates for the quarter ending the 31st December, 1854, to enable Mr. Deane to receive the emolument attached to his office, in accordance with the instructions conveyed in the despatch from the Earl of Dudley, dated the 12th of March, 1828, which makes provision for that appointment, and which has always been acted upon since that period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 14.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 13.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, January 13, 1855.

IN presenting my report on the Slave Trade on this coast for the year 1854 to your Lordship, I have the honour to state that no case having been brought before any of the British and Foreign Mixed Courts of Justice established in this Colony for its suppression during that period, the number of cases prosecuted in those Courts, and of slaves emancipated and registered therein, remain the same as mentioned in the report for 1853.

During the year 1854 there was only one vessel adjudicated in the Vice-Admiralty Court of the Colony, which was a case of condemnation under the Act 2 and 3 Vict., cap. 73. In the same period, under the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, a native canoe, captured in British waters, was also condemned, and the two slaves found on board were emancipated.

The condemned vessel was taken by Commander Macdonald, of Her Majesty's sloop "Ferret," in the River Pongas, to the northward of this Colony, on the 23rd of May, 1854 (a short time later in the season of the year than the two captured there in 1853), and the only papers found on board were two letters from the supposed captain to the mate, from which it was impossible to obtain any information of her nationality, destination, or port of clearance. The country canoe was seized at the Banana Islands in this Colony, by Captain Rookes, of the 2nd West India Regiment, on the 14th of August last.

In addition to the above captures, and a report lately current of a schooner having, a short time ago, succeeded in carrying off a human cargo from the River Pongas, attempts have been made by the natives in the Mellicoura and Fouricariah rivers, to the north, to revive the Slave Trade, and a number of canoes have been sent by those people to the Sherbro and Gallinas for slaves to be used either for agricultural purposes, or for exportation to the West Indies, as may be most profitable. This system has been lately adopted in consequence of their being less valuable in the latter countries than in either of the former places, or in their immediate neighbourhoods.

The slaver captured in the River Pongas in the year 1854 probably belongs to the same owners as the two taken there in 1853, from their having been seized at the same place, and at nearly the same period of the year, evidently showing an intention of renewing the illicit Traffic in that locality; and it is not unlikely that some of the slaves procured from the Sherbro and Gallinas by the natives to the northward, would form part of the cargoes of such vessels if favourable opportunities presented themselves for shipment. No doubt also the war which has been existing there for some time, checked almost all legitimate commerce, and gave an impetus to the Slave Trade in that part.

Three of the canoes above referred to have been seized, namely, two by Mr. Hanson, Her Majesty's Consular Agent in the Sherbro, on the 12th of August, 1854, with 89 slaves (one of whom died on the passage to this place), which slaves are said to have been shipped in the Boom Kittam river in that country, and were on their way to the north, being owned by parties residing in the River Mellicoura; and the other seizure was made by Mr. G. H. Phillips, manager of the eastern district, at Kent in this Colony, on the 23rd November last, with 49 slaves, reported to be from Gallinas by the before-mentioned river to the Fouricariah, between Mellicoura and the River Pongas. The survivors of these slaves, 137 in number, have been taken charge of by the Liberated African Department of this Colony. Mr. Hanson's seizures were made under the provisions of a Treaty between Her Majesty and the Sherbro Chiefs, and that of Mr. Phillips under the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113.

These seizures, my Lord, fully prove the existence of a large Slave Traffic between the neighbouring countries, north and south of this Colony, not-

withstanding the Treaties between Her Majesty and the Chiefs of the Sherbro, Mellicoura, and Fouricariah rivers for its suppression.

Since the expulsion of the foreign resident slave-traders from the Sherbro, as mentioned in the report for 1853, I have not heard of the return of any of them, either to the Sherbro or Gallinas countries.

It is with regret I learn that some cargoes of slaves have been successfully carried off from the Bight of Benin in the year 1854, owing to the withdrawal of a part of Her Majesty's cruisers from that station, as well as the want of good faith on the part of the King of Dahomey in carrying out his Treaty engagements with Great Britain.

I trust, however, that the increased and increasing legitimate commerce on this coast, attended with the facilities hitherto unknown of constant communication with civilized countries, will lead to the extinction in a short time of this nefarious Traffic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 15.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd of January, respecting the temporary nomination of Mr. Henry Deane by Governor Kennedy, as Surgeon to the Mixed Courts at Sierra Leone, in the place of Dr. Aitkin; and I have to inform you, in reply, that, on the 30th of December last, I caused to be communicated to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies my approval of Mr. Deane's appointment. I have also to state to you that you acted correctly in signing the necessary certificates to enable Mr. Deane to get his first quarter's salary.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 16.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 23.)*

My Lord, *Sierra Leone, January 23, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the case of a schooner or vessel, name unknown, said to be the "*Oregon*" or "*Mercedita*," whereof Bentino Gonzalves was master, seized by Thomas Miller, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop-of-war "*Crane*," which was prosecuted on the 1st of this month in the Vice-Admiralty Court of the Colony, and condemned on the 8th instant, under the Act 2 & 3 Vict., cap. 73.

From the evidence in this case, it would appear that Commander Miller received, in the month of August last, authentic information that a schooner, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, had been given up by her master and supercargo, to a Captain Birket, of the British merchant-ship "*Belle*," to be by him delivered over to the proper British authorities, the said schooner being then on shore; and that she had subsequently been taken possession of by Captain Hemingway, master of the British merchant-ship "*Roderick Dhu*," also in the Bonny river, in whose possession she then was. Commander Miller consequently demanded from Captain Hemingway the delivery up to him of the said schooner, and her cargo and equipments, in order that they might be dealt with according to law. But it appeared that, for the purpose of carrying on his trade in the Bonny and Benin rivers, Captain Hemingway had used the said schooner, by putting his merchandize and produce on board of her, and for his better convenience had taken out and removed on shore in the Bonny, all her slave-fittings,

which were subsequently delivered up and received on board the "Crane," in conformity with the demand of Captain Miller, on the 20th of August, and on the 24th of that month the said Commander dispatched Lieutenant John Forster, Senior Lieutenant of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," up the Benin river to take possession of the said schooner, and to proceed with her to Lagos, where the "Crane" was going; which instructions Lieutenant Forster obeyed, and found a large quantity of merchandize on board the schooner, said to be the property of Messrs. Stewart and Douglass, of Liverpool, for whom Captain Hemingway was agent. The slaver was then brought to Lagos by Lieutenant Forster, and the slave equipments taken out of her, and received on board the "Crane," were there returned to the schooner, where a survey was held by order of Commander Miller, on the said vessel, and an inventory of her apparel and furniture, &c., taken, as well as a certificate of the correctness of the cargo placed on board by Captain Hemingway; from which documents, Commander Miller finding the said schooner fully equipped for the Slave Trade, and having on board of her at the time of being given up to Captain Birket, and afterwards taken possession of by Captain Hemingway, fifty-two water-casks or leaguers, two large iron pots or boilers of fourteen gallons each, in addition to her cooking apparatus, being more than sufficient for the use of her crew, and four open gratings fitted to the hatchways, as usually found in slave-vessels, plank and beams fitted to form a slave-deck, and other slave equipments; and having also no papers whatever nor colours on board, to denote her nationality, Commander Miller, on the 30th of August, seized the said schooner, and dispatched her on the following day to Sierra Leone for adjudication, which place she reached on the 30th of September, where the prize officer, Acting Lieutenant Gillson, being advised that the merchandize on board the detained vessel formed no part of the slave-cargo, and that it was desirable he should return to Bonny and deliver up to Captain Hemingway the merchandize as the property of Messrs. Stewart and Douglass, and then proceed back to Sierra Leone, or to some other port, for the purpose of bringing the schooner into the Vice-Admiralty Court for adjudication, accordingly left Sierra Leone on the 14th of October last, and arrived at Bonny on the 9th of November, where he delivered to Captain Hemingway the cargo put on board, which being done, he joined the "Crane" on the 30th of November, at Lagos, where the schooner being found in a very leaky condition and unseaworthy state, Commander Miller ordered another inventory to be taken of the furniture, apparel, stores, &c., and a survey to be held on the hull of the said schooner, when she was declared unseaworthy. In consequence whereof the schooner was beached, by order of Commander Miller, on the 5th of December last, and then totally destroyed by cutting her to pieces; previous to which, the two iron boilers belonging to the said schooner were sunk alongside Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," and all her hatchways, gratings, &c., destroyed on board the said sloop of war, and the remains of the hull, stores, and apparel of the schooner, were sold by the Paymaster of the "Crane," and the proceeds, amounting to 425 dollars, brought up and paid into the Registry of the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony.

The prize officer arrived a second time at Sierra Leone, on the 26th of December, in the mail-packet "Bacchante," and, as before mentioned, the case was brought into the Vice-Admiralty Court on the 1st, and adjudicated on the 8th instant, when the Judge pronounced that it had been proved, that at the time the said schooner or vessel was given up by her master to be given up to the proper authorities, she was engaged in, and equipped for, the Slave Trade, contrary to the statute 2 & 3 Vict., cap. 73, and as such, subject and liable to forfeiture and condemnation; declaring also the forfeiture of the proceeds arising from the sale of the effects of the said vessel, amounting to 425 dollars.

The measurement of the condemned schooner, according to the 19th section of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., cap. 89, was 180 tons.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 17.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, ad interim, to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, February 27, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 27th of January, 1855, of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th December, 1854, acquainting me that the attention of the Lords of the Admiralty having been called to the fact of the great increase in the exportation of slaves from the west coast of Africa, owing to the reduced strength of the British squadron there, the same has been reinforced, and will continue to be so, as the exigencies of the service will permit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

HAVANA.

No. 18.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received April 29.)*

My Lord,

Havana, April 8, 1854.

I WAS informed lately, by Mr. Crawford, that the Captain-General has seized and liberated 600 recently-landed Bozal negroes. No official announcement however of that fact has yet been received by the Mixed Court.

I have not heard, since my last report to your Lordship, of any fresh slave-trading transactions.

The British naval force stationed about this island for the purpose of intercepting slave-trading vessels has suffered some diminution, the "Buzzard" and "Daring" having both left the Cuba station for Bermuda within the last fortnight, and no fresh cruisers having, as far as I am informed, come to supply their places.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 19.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received June 5.)*

(Extract.)

Havana, May 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a list published in the "Gaceta" in the early part of last month, of those persons to whom have been assigned as apprentices certain Bozal negroes who are said to have been captured in the jurisdiction of Trinidad in this island, in the month of March last.

These negroes come of course among those whose treatment is provided for in the 2nd and 10th Articles of the Regulations of the 1st of January last, and communicated in my despatch dated the 2nd of January.* Though the number of negroes enumerated in this list amounts to only 577, they are no doubt the negroes comprised in that seizure which I had the honour to report in my despatch of the 8th ultimo, and which I stated, as it was reported to me, to comprise 600.

It will be seen that the Captain-General has himself taken one of these negroes under his charge. Count Fernandina, to whom 35 have been assigned, was formerly the Spanish Judge of the Mixed Court at Havana; he has, I believe, several sugar estates. More than one-fourth of the persons contained in this list, and generally those to whom the larger numbers of negroes have been assigned are, I am assured, sugar or coffee planters; consequently a very large proportion of these Bozal negroes are probably condemned to the severest labour and mode of life

* See Class A, presented 1854, Inclosure 6 in No. 38.

in this country I am told that one object in these assignments has been to supply labourers to those owners of estates who suffered the most by losses of their negroes from cholera last year.

Inclosure in No. 19.

List.

RELACION de los Señores á quienes se han conferido en aprendizaje por el término de un año los negros Bozales aprehendidos en la jurisdiccion de Trinidad, el mez de Marzo próximo pasado.

Al Excelentísimo Señor Gobernador Capitan-General,—
1 de 7 años.

Don Francisco Maestu Eraso	25
Excelentísimo Señor Conde de O'Reilly	45
Excelentísimo Señor Conde de la Fernandina	35
Don Raimundo Garrich	12
Don Policarpo Urbazos	6
Don Carlos Benítez	30
Don Felipe Arango	8
Don Felipe Alum	10
Don Evaristo Lamar	6
Don Luis Leiras	2
Excelentísimo Señor Don Gregorio Piquero.	20
Don José Bruzon	12
Brigadier Don Santiago Fortun	4
Doña Rita Lamar	2
Excelentísimo Señor Don José Cadaval	12
Don N. Gaston	10
Don Joaquin Palma	12
Don Félix Cabello	4
Don Manuel Quevedo	4
Doña Encarnacion Palomino	1
Don Cándido Pequeño	6
Don Tomás de la Peña	6
Don Miguel de Castro Palomino	2
Don Manuel Anselmo Chaple	7
Don José Laureano Guitar	5
Don Guillermo Gonzalez	20
San Pelayo, Pardo y Compañía	60
Don Domingo Martinez	2
Excelentísimo Señor Don Antonio Juan Parejo	55
Don Eustaquio Estanillo	2
Don Manuel Santos Lamadrid	5
Don Ramon Montalvo	15
Don Miguel Patiño	6
Doña Clara Abril	3
Hospital de Manzanillo	2
Doña Benigna Aparicio	2
Doña María Jesus Lamar	3
Doña Cármén Pontisis	1
Doña Camila Montaño	2
Doña María del Cármén Noriega	2
Doña Antonia Ameneiro	2
El Señor Marqués Du-Quesne	30
Don Juan Agustin de Ferrety	20
Doña Rosario Montero Espinosa	2
Don Francisco de Paula Michelena	2
Doña Merced Araoz	2
Don Isidro Hernandez y Jimenes	1
Don José Ramon Cabello	4
Doña Magdalena Herrerra	1
Doña María Antonio Valdes	1
Don Manuel Acevedo	5
Excelentísimo Señor Don Joaquin Roca de Togores	1
Don Eduardo Fesser	35
Doña Antonio Valdes Mendoza	2
Doña Mariana Cantini	2

Lo que de órden del Excelentísimo Señor Gobernador Capitan-General se inserta en la "Gaceta Oficial" de Gobierno para conocimiento de los Señores interesados.

(Firmado)

JOSE ESTEVAN.

Habana, 10 de Abril de 1854.

No. 20.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of two letters which I have lately received from Mr. Crawford, respecting several recent landings of altogether 1,950 Bozal negroes in this island.

I was informed, within the last few days, that a schooner, named the "*Manuela*," Don Manuel Mora, master, has been fitting out at Tallapiedra, in this harbour, for Slave Trade. She has been detained here a short time through the sickness of the cook, who has now recovered. Mr. Crawford informed me yesterday, that he had denounced her a few days ago, and that she had not yet sailed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, April 25, 1854.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I have received information of the landing of 650 Bozal negroes at a place in the jurisdiction of Jivaro, called the "Estero de Guasuma," which I have denounced to his Excellency the Captain-General, and I have at the same time reported to his Excellency that another cargo had been landed recently before at or near the same place, the particulars of which I have not been able to ascertain.

I have also to acquaint you, that having made inquiry verbally at the Captain-General's on the 15th instant, as to a rumour which had reached me of the disembarkation of 400 slaves at a place between Matanzas and Cardenas on or about the 10th or 12th instant, I was informed by the Secretary that the Government had not received any information upon the subject; but that they had heard of the landing of a small number of Bozals near Zarza, on the south side, although they did not give credit to the report.

Subsequent inquiries have however given me occasion to believe that the 400 alluded to were landed at the place mentioned on the north side, and that 300 more, as reported, had been run on the south side, in the district of Sancti Spiritu.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, April 28, 1854.

IT has been my disagreeable duty again to denounce to the Captain-General the disembarkation a few days ago, near Cardenas, of 600 Bozal negroes of the Congo nation, which negroes are stated to me to have been deposited at the house of some relatives of the Licenciado Don José Fresneda in the district of Palmillos.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 21.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translation of a proclamation which has been recently published in the "*Gaceta*" by order of the Captain-General, in which his Excellency begins by denying the truth of a rumour which was very actively circulated here some months ago,

and which received authoritative contradiction in other countries, as to an arrangement for abolishing slavery in this country. Besides the regulations contained in the last three of the six Articles published with this proclamation against engagement in, or connivance at, Slave Trade, there are two important principles contained in the first three regulations, namely, that the local authorities shall be authorized, contrary to the IXth Article of the Penal Law of 1845, under certain restrictions, to enter estates in search of Bozal negroes; and that all the slaves in the island shall be registered. The regulations authorizing the invasion of estates have, I believe, caused some dissatisfaction among the proprietors of estates, who consider that they are thereby placed too much at the mercy of the petty local authorities.

The more detailed code of regulations, published only yesterday in consequence of instructions from Madrid, seems to consist in great measure of particular directions as to the mode of carrying out the new important regulations.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the proclamation published in the "Gaceta" of yesterday. I will take an opportunity of transmitting to your Lordship another copy, with a translation,* when ready.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

Office of the Secretary to the Government.

IT is the duty of Governments, under grave circumstances, to address themselves to those under their authority, in order to tranquillize their minds, and to explain to them clearly and frankly that which otherwise being spread and erroneously commented on, might alarm them, and affect their lawful interests.

It therefore now becomes my duty to deny most solemnly in the name of our Queen, whose authority I represent in this vast Province of her Monarchy, the report maliciously published of a supposed compact with a powerful nation, having for its groundwork the emancipation of slaves sooner or later, in consideration of that nation's efficacious aid for the preservation of Cuba under the flag which discovered it, which peopled it, and which has maintained it at great expense for a great number of years.

The assistance of a powerful ally may, and perhaps will be, useful to us, should we find ourselves under the necessity, which is not to be expected, of repelling the injustice of another which, moreover, is perhaps compelled to respect our alliance, formed in the cradle of its own liberty. But neither would we purchase that assistance at such cost, nor is it indispensable for sustaining our rights. The latter rest upon a squadron and a warlike army, upon the loyalty of the most immense majority of the vigorous natives, before which is contemptible the garrulous and disgraceful war of letters and lies, of which alone a corrupted and factious party make use, and lastly, on the justice of our cause, and on the strength which is imparted to the good in the defence of their homes, of their law, and of their God, who has here appointed hurricanes and sickness for foreign enemies, and as much spirit in our heart as endurance in our Spanish bodies.

That detestable invention then is altogether false, offensive to our honour and our glory, most opposed to the sentiments of the Queen; and I contradict it now in her august name, as an attempt against the prosperity of this land, and which neither now nor ever will be accomplished, as long as Providence does not extinguish in all Castilian breasts the holy sentiment of justice and respect for legitimately acquired property.

And if this is right, and the Government, in fulfilment of its duties, will never depart from it, the inhabitants of Cuba have other duties also not less sacred to fulfil in compliance with the laws. It is time to make the life of the Creole slave more pleasant than that of the white man who, under another name, is overworked in Europe. And above all, the day has arrived for putting an end for ever to that infamous African Trade, the fosterer of the most barbarous avarice, the grave of every sentiment of virtue in the country which tolerates it, the stain on every white brow, and the complete disgrace to humanity.

The Government is resolved to put an end to it at every hazard. No subterfuge, no hypocritical fraud will suffice to check it in that course, indispensable for preserving the dignity which attaches to it. What are now the prettexts alleged for following this shameful Traffic? The necessity for hands, when the Government has facilitated the means of supplying them? The quality of the labourers, when on all sides come the best accounts from honest men of the profitable industry of the new immigrants? Or is it not that they (the labourers) being alike, they turn out well with some and ill with others, according to the extent of avarice of each? Yes! there is no longer any reason but vile interest; and that not of the proprietors of estates who cultivate the land, but of the avaricious traders, who must gain a thousand per cent. though they extract it from the flesh of their fellow-creatures. The former find means to obtain, instead of their gains rapid at the time but insecure, others, less perhaps at the moment, but more firm and lasting, which they will hand down to their sons and descendants, and not exhausted, as the present are, in one single generation; and

* See Class B, Inclosure in No. 388.

hus, above all, combining and uniting true riches with religion, laws, established customs, and private and public happiness, instead of the present artificial fortunes, and the perpetual alarm and insecurity which surround them. The latter are those who cannot exchange for anything the monstrous usuriousness of their profits, and their heart can find nothing to be substituted for it, and their imagination much to invent to fascinate them with coveted gains. To them what signifies the good faith, the law, the honour of their Government? It is for the latter to occupy itself with that case. Enough of fraudulent introductions, the suppression of which is now a constant source of anxiety to him who rules. The spectacle shall no longer last of the impotence of authority, whose endeavours are turned to ridicule by avarice and vice, and the impunity of some few capitalists, who prefer their private interests to the national honour, which is deeply compromised.

Considering, therefore, the change that circumstances have brought about in the regulations for the admission of immigrants, and that it is impossible any longer to preserve in the force and spirit which have hitherto been given to it the IXth Article of the Penal Law of the 4th March, 1845, I have directed that, without prejudice to other greater measures, the approval of which I await from Her Majesty, there be put in force from the 1st of August next, those which are established in the following Articles, which I publish as a Proclamation for the general information of all persons, and which I circulate to the authorities and justices of the island, that they may be fitly carried out:

Article 1. For the space of a month after a disembarkation of Bozals shall have taken place, the authorities shall be empowered to enter upon estates of any kind which shall be suspected by them, and shall be empowered to call over the list of the number of hands attached to it, and to survey and examine those estates as they shall think proper, avoiding nevertheless every appearance of force, provided they meet with no open resistance, and taking care not to commit any act which might lower in the eyes of the slaves the prestige of their masters or superintendents.

Art. 2. In order that account may be taken of the slaves in a clear and precise manner, so that there may be no room for concealment as at present, the only way of carrying out what is arranged in the IXth Article of the Law of the 4th of March, 1845, above mentioned, which provides that the owners of slaves shall not be proceeded against nor disturbed in the possession of slaves on account of the origin of such possession, the local authorities every year from the 1st of August, when the crops are finished, shall register the number of hands belonging to the estates, recording the names, nation, sex, and age of the slaves, giving a duplicate to the proprietor or agent, signed by both parties, the latter being under obligation to make known to the former within three days both the diminution and the augmentation which may occur on such estate, showing the title and person from whence the acquisitions come, and, when it occurs, the alienation of negroes, it being understood that all these acts must be done officially and without any expense to the proprietor.

Art. 3. Negroes who shall be found on an estate and are not included in the register, shall be confiscated and declared free, after the necessary course of proceedings, always provided they be Bozals, the concealers being subject to the penalties imposed on aiders and protectors of this unlawful Traffic; but if from their examination it shall appear that they are not Bozals, they shall be returned to their owners, a fine being inflicted on the latter of fifty dollars for each surplus negro who may be found on the estate, and of whom information may not have been given to the local authority in conformity with the provision in the IIInd Article.

Art. 4. Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, or other civil authorities, in whose territory any disembarkation shall take place, of which they do not inform the Superior Government as soon as it comes to their knowledge, and at all events before the lapse of twenty-four hours after its occurrence, shall for this act alone be dismissed from their office, if there shall appear to be no charges of any other kind against them; if there be, they shall suffer in addition the punishments which may be inflicted on them by the competent tribunal.

Art. 5. It being impossible that any disembarkation should be effected without the connivance of the subordinate authorities, or at least without there being on their part a great culpability, equivalent according to the laws to fraud, those in whose territory it shall be effected, if they do not seize all the Bozals, shall incur for that act alone dismissal from office and disqualification for obtaining any other.

Art. 6 and last. Any persons, great or small, who engage in the unlawful Trade in Slaves, shall be expelled by the Government from the island, for the term of two years, in conformity with the power given me by the laws of the Indies, independently of their liability to incur the legal proceedings which may be instituted, if their connivance should be proved.

(Signed) EL MARQUES DE LA PEZUELA.

Havana, May 3, 1854.

No. 22.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 1, 1854.

IN obedience to the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, directing such return to be made on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July in every year, I have the honour to report that there was no case brought for adjudication before the Mixed Court of Justice at this place during the last six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 23.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received August 30.)*

My Lord,

Havana, July 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translation of an extract from the "Gazette" of the 16th instant, in reply to certain statements in certain American newspapers, relating to the Slave Trade in this Island. This reply is called unofficial; though it is published, not only in the official "Gazette," but in the larger type commonly used in that paper exclusively for the more important official notifications. Each of the charges against the Captain-General referred to in this reply has been for some time past a subject of common rumour, and apparently of very common belief, in Havana.

In allusion to the rumours respecting the supposed intention of the Government here to abolish slavery, the Captain-General published officially, on the 30th of May last, a circular, which he addressed to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of this Island, and which is more exclusively confined to this subject than was the proclamation published a short time previously, which was communicated to your Lordship in my despatch of the 10th of May.*

I have the honour to inclose herewith a translation of the circular of the 30th of May.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

Extract from the "Gazette" of July 16, 1854.

(Translation.)

Sunday, July 16, 1854.

REPLY to calumnies foolishly invented by the Correspondent of the "New York Herald" journal, of the 2nd and 3rd instant:

Colonel Martin was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Trinidad in the room of Brigadier Morales Rada, who requested permission to go to Spain to take his family thither, and not in the room of any Alverni removed for any cause, either good or bad.

The orders which the Captain-General gave for investigating the importation of negroes at Trinidad, Sancti Spiritu, and Bahia Honda, were such that there have actually been taken more than 1,500 Bozals, who immediately became emancipados.

The Lieutenant-Governors and assessors at those three places are suspended and under prosecution at law.

Señor Zulueta likewise is under prosecution before the Real Audiencia, and having given personal security, left the island some days ago.

Señor Borrell is in prison as an "incomunicado," together with Señores Choperena and Castro. Never has the African Trade suffered more implacable persecution. These are facts known to us all.

What sort of veracity is that of the Correspondent of the "New York Herald" journal? And that also of the other Correspondent of the other journal in New Orleans, "Correo de la Louisiana," which does not accuse General Pezuela of being an invisible protector of slave-traders, but of being on the contrary an abolitionist? Which are we to believe? Which of these two things is General Pezuela, for he cannot be both at once? Let us proceed to reply to that other friend.

The Government neither is engaged, nor ever will give in to the folly of engaging itself, in issuing decrees to open to negroes the ecclesiastical or forensic professions. The Government is anxious only, and will be very glad to procure, that the poor negroes be treated by their masters with humanity and gentleness in the humble condition which fate has assigned to them, never ceasing to recommend to the rich, charity, and to the poor, submission.

The Captain-General has given no directions respecting marriages of white and black which have not been already laid down by the laws which have always regulated this matter, and which confine themselves to forbidding such connections to the nobility. The unequal marriages which took place last year amount to 146; and for the present half-year, during the governorship of General Pezuela, they do not yet amount to 60. These are facts likewise. How much veracity is there in the other correspondent of the other journal?

Would not these gentlemen do well to save trouble to the "Gazette," by abstaining from saying what they do not know?

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

Circular.

(Translation.)

Office of the Government Secretary.

THE secret and constant enemies of the Spanish name, who neglect no occasion on which they can sow with their calumnies discontent and disunion among the inhabitants of Cuba, have been publishing for some time past the most ridiculous absurdities respecting the supposed abolitionist intentions of the Government, and explaining, against their true and natural meaning, phrases and words contained in official documents, and imagining secret Treaties and engagements which neither have existed, nor have been nor will be allowed to exist, have chosen to spread some alarm amongst silly or over-timid people. It is therefore your duty, at the same that you most strictly carry out the Decrees of the Queen, according to the modified instructions which I transmit to you, not only to repress and punish with a strong hand the promulgators of those calumnious and revolutionary statements, but to impart confidence and security to the honourable inhabitants of the territory under your command. Make it understood to all that the countenancers of the African Trade must in vain tempt them to make common cause with them; that the measures which Her Majesty has ordered to be adopted to destroy their fraudulent schemes all tend to that sole object, and to secure at the same time to slave-owners the lawful, peaceful, and perpetual possession of their property, in which nobody shall be allowed to disturb them now or at any time: for from that private property, which in every country is well ascertained and understood, proceed the wealth and public prosperity of nations, the well-being and glory of the State, which likewise are reflected on him who rules it faithfully.

Make them remember that neither Her Majesty's Government nor her Representative in Cuba can ever be subservient to foreign interests of any kind, and that they know how to unite a regard for the true interests of this country with the sacred fulfilment of Treaties, and how to defend themselves against an exaggerated philanthropy, from which they are as far removed as from the barbarity of the slave-traders. Her Majesty's Government knows too well that that unhappy race, who understand by liberty nothing more than vagrancy, for the honour of humanity ought not to be taken out of the land in which they were born; but that, being once placed among civilized men, being protected by religion and by the great laws of our fathers, they are, in their so-called slavery, a thousand times happier than other European classes who are free but in name. It is not therefore the sense merely of public or private interest, but even that of humanity, which prompts Her Majesty to dictate measures which may secure the continuance of slavery, its well-being and progress. Carry out those measures with moderation and kindness, but without wavering or hesitation. They constitute the elements of real progress and success which surround the honourable natives of this country in that department of the public service. Those natives will bless some day the hand which dictated them.

Do not omit to inculcate this in the minds of all, and that they must remain tranquil under the paternal rule of the Government which has raised this island to a pitch of wealth and prosperity which is now the object of the envy and covetousness of powerful nations; of the Government which feels itself as well able to defeat the plots of intriguing and venal perfidy as the armaments with which the filibusteros are perhaps at this moment preparing for our troops and for the loyal Cubans a new occasion for exalting their names in the service of their Queen and country.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

EL MARQUES DE LA PEZUELA.

Havana, May 30, 1854.

To the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of the Island.

As Her Majesty's Secretary to this Supreme Government, I certify that the foregoing circular has been issued at the date abovementioned, his Excellency ordering it to be inserted in the official "Gazette" for the information of, and fulfilment by, those whom it may concern.

(Signed)

JOSE ESTEVAN.

Havana, May 30, 1854.

No. 24.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received August 30.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 3, 1854.

A LIST has been published officially by the Captain-General in the "Gaceta" of the 15th instant, for the information of the persons interested, showing the manner in which the Bozal negroes, seized recently at Sancti Spiritu and Trinidad, have been ordered to be disposed of. The Captain-General prefaces the list, which is called a statement of the persons favoured, and of the number of Bozals assigned to each, by expressing a hope that those persons to whom the Bozals are entrusted as apprentices will fulfil the duties which religion, morality, and the existing regulations impose on them; and by announcing the day—the 17th of July—appointed for those persons to apply for them at the place of their deposit under the

charge of the Real Junta de Fomento; and further announcing that they would be disposed of by four distributions of one fourth part each time to each assignee in turn, according to the dates of the assignments. Each person is allowed his choice of the individual negro he will take.

I understand that there is now much unwillingness to take charge of the new emancipados, now called apprentices, on the part of persons formerly anxious to obtain their services. Formerly persons used to apply for emancipados, and used to get their names put down in the proper department of the Government, as applicants to whom emancipados should be given when the Government had any to dispose of. I have heard that one of these persons who had thus had his name put down for some emancipados about a year ago, and therefore before the publication of the Regulations of the 1st of January last, but who had not yet received any, and had no wish to prefer his claim under the new Regulations, was at length informed that the number his name was down for was to be given him from among those seized at Trinidad in March last, the manner of disposing of whom was exhibited in a list I had the honour to inclose in my despatch of the 8th of May last,* and that he has been much disappointed with this recognition of his claim; he did not, however, abstain, as he might have done, from taking the number assigned to him.

All the recently-assigned emancipado apprentices, as far as I have been informed, have been delivered to their respective masters for only one year, at the end of which time they are to be delivered up to the Government, and possibly reassigned, but not to the same person without the consent of both parties concerned. This may in some cases be beneficial to both master and emancipado; but it does not appear to be necessarily required, as regards apprentices, by the form of contract under which, according to the 5th and 10th Articles of the Regulations of last January, all emancipados, whether free or apprenticed, are to be engaged.

One of the persons whose names are down in the list is there put down for 5 Bozals. He had his choice, when his turn came, in the first distribution, of 2, and by the following two distributions obtained 2 more; but, on account, as he informed me, of the specimens he saw, and of the conditions under which they were assigned, he abstained from claiming the fifth. The 4 which he did obtain consisted of 2 very young boys, for whom he paid 84 dollars altogether; a girl of about seventeen years of age, for whom he paid 38 dollars, and another of about twenty-two years, for 48 dollars, the last two being, on account of their sex, cheaper in proportion to their age than the 2 boys. He informed me that they have required and received a good deal of medical attendance within the short time he has had them.

The sums abovementioned are, of course, the amount of wages appointed by the society formed for the purpose, to be considered due to the emancipados for the first four months of the term of their contract, which wages are, for emancipados serving their apprenticeship, to be taken charge of by the said society till the completion of the five years' apprenticeship. This mode of dealing with the wages is established by the 2nd, 3rd, 10th, and 18th Articles of the Regulations.

It appears, by a notice published officially in the "Gazette" of the 28th of June, that many persons to whom emancipado apprentices had been assigned early in the year had, some time after the expiration of the first four months, neglected to pay in advance, as is ordered, the wages due for the second four months, in consequence of which neglect they were warned that, if they did not make the payment within a month of the date of the said notice, they would forfeit the apprentices, besides having to pay whatever was due.

In addition to the abovementioned list of assignments, a supplementary one was published a few days after, containing the names of some persons, with the numbers assigned to them, for the distribution of some more negroes, and headed by a notice to those who omitted to claim the num-

bers assigned to them at the former distribution, that they might obtain them at the other, which would be made in the same manner.

In these two lists the number of Bozal negroes amounts altogether to 996, and they appear to proceed all of them from the last seizures at Sancti Spiritu and Trinidad. It is stated in the unofficial extract from the "Gazette" inclosed in my despatch dated the 31st ultimo,* that more than 1,500 have been taken at the abovementioned places, and Bahia Honda. At this last-mentioned place it will be remembered there were 205 negroes seized about the end of June, which are said to have formed about one-third of a cargo landed from the "*Grey Eagle*," the vessel which is now under adjudication.

When all these negroes are added to the number referred to in my despatch of the 8th of May, namely, 577 seized in March in the jurisdiction of Trinidad, it will be seen that the numbers seized lately at these different places, do in fact amount to considerably more than 1,500; no less than 1,778. Mr. Crawford informed me, on the 29th ultimo, that the Captain-General stated that he had seized altogether, up to that time, 2,592.

I have heard from Mr. Crawford of a seizure, about a month ago, of 181 negroes, said to be part of a cargo consisting of 410, brought in between the Isle of Pines and the mainland of Cuba; the Lieutenant-Governor, moreover, of the district, having been superseded on account of that affair. I have heard several vague rumours, founded probably on fact, one being that there were a few days ago fifteen slavers out, and expected here sooner or later; and another, that there were two trying to land somewhere about this island, but warned off by the Capitanes de Partidos, who were afraid to allow them to land in their own districts. I mentioned this to Mr. Crawford, who had not heard of more than one vessel in this latter predicament, and who told me that he had directed the attention of Commander Phillimore, of Her Majesty's steamer "*Medea*," to that one which had appeared about the place where the landing and partial seizure he had mentioned had taken place, near the Isle of Pines.

No. 25.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received August 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translation of a circular recently issued by the Captain-General, and published officially in the "Gazette," referring to the fact that, in consequence of the recent active measures for the suppression of Slave Trade in this island, landed proprietors have been known to be so afraid to take newly arrived Bozals on their estates, that many of those Bozals have been left to wander unclaimed in the woods. The circular contains an offer of reward to persons who will bring such Bozals before the authorities.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure in No. 25.

Circular.

(Translation.)

Office of the Government Secretary.

CONSIDERING that there are no means within its power (which extends over all things in this country) which Her Majesty's Government is not disposed to adopt, in order to put an end to that demoralizing and lamentable trade which for so long a time has been causing insecurity and alarm to attend private property, which can be guaranteed and established only by a faithful carrying out of Treaties, and the absolute extirpation of the African Trade;

Although this Trade is already coming to an end, by means of the registration of slaves which you will transmit to me as soon as possible, I consider it my duty nevertheless not to neglect one moment of its most baneful existence;

And finally, it having come to my knowledge that the active hostility which is carried on in different parts of the island against the introduction of Bozals, causes many of those unfortunate creatures to be now wandering about the woods abandoned and fugitive, rejected from estates whose honourable proprietors, in obedience to the law, do not wish to incur the reproach of being patronizers of the crime, I have decreed :

1st. That to every one who shall bring before the authorities African Bozals seized out of the hands of their introducers, or caught astray, there shall be paid 10 dollars for every grown man, 6 for every woman, and 3 for every child, those sums being paid out of the Emancipados' Fund, which cannot be better employed than for the liberty of a like class with the said emancipados.

2ndly. If those who produce them shall be landed proprietors of known morality, the liberated Bozals moreover shall be assigned to them for the term of their apprenticeship, under the conditions established by the regulations.

This I say to you for its punctual fulfilment.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

EL MARQUES DE LA PEZUELA.

Havana, July 28, 1854.

To the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of the Island.

As Secretary of this Supreme Government, I certify that the foregoing circular has been issued this day, by order of his Excellency the Governor Captain-General, in obedience to which also it is inserted in the official "Gazette," for the general information of, and fulfilment by, those whom it may concern.

(Signed)

JOSE ESTEVAN.

Havana, July 28, 1854.

No. 26.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received October 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 19, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 3rd instant,* I have the honour to inclose a translation of an official notification published in the "Gazette" of to-day, of a case in which the rewards offered in the circular of which a copy was inclosed in that despatch have been granted for the apprehension of 174 stray Bozal negroes in the jurisdiction of Mariel.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Notification.

(Translation.)

Office of the Government Secretary.

DON MANUEL CRISTOVAL DE ZAYAS having apprehended, in the mountains in the Jurisdiction of Mariel, 174 Bozal negroes who had just been introduced clandestinely into this island in contravention of the commands of Her Majesty the Queen our Mistress (whom God preserve !), his Excellency the Governor Captain-General has been pleased to declare the said Zayas entitled to the rewards specified in the 1st Article of the Circular of the 28th of July last, inserted in the official "Gazette" of the Government, according to the classification made of the said Bozals which is as follows:—

76 men, at 10 dollars	..	..	..	..	..	\$760
3 boys, at 3 dollars	..	..	..	..	..	9
80 women, at 6 dollars	..	..	..	..	..	480
15 girls, at 2 dollars	..	..	..	..	..	45
Total	..	..	..	..	..	\$1294

Which sum has been paid by the Treasurer of the Junta Protectora de Emancipados to the said captor.

Which, by order of his Excellency, is published in the official "Gazette" of the Government for the information of all.

(Signed)

JOSE ESTEVAN.

Havana, August 18, 1854.

No. 27.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received November 1.)*

(Extract.)

Havana, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that General Don José de la Concha, the newly appointed Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, arrived here on the 21st instant, and that on the same day the Marquis de la Pezuela gave up to him the government of the island.

On the 24th instant, I had the honour of presenting myself with my Commission to General Concha, in conformity to what appears to have been the custom observed on such occasions by my predecessors. My Spanish colleague had previously waited on General Concha in another capacity, he happening to hold a military rank besides his office in the Mixed Court. I was accompanied by the Secretary to the Mixed Court. His Excellency made no remarks on Slave Trade, or his intentions respecting it, perhaps because another person, the Dutch Consul, happened to be present.

The day after his arrival, General Concha issued the usual address to the inhabitants of Cuba, in which he says nothing about Slave Trade, but refers to the acts of his former administration of government as a guarantee for those of the new.

On the 27th instant his Excellency published a circular, addressed to the Military and Civil Governors of the Eastern and Western departments, (which two divisions, according to a recent arrangement, comprise the whole island), announcing the principles he intended to follow in his government of this island; and in the last paragraph of this circular he alludes to Slave Trade, which he says must and shall entirely disappear. He says that its disappearance was his predecessor's object, and shall be his. The last clause of the paragraph, however, respecting the security of proprietors from disturbance in their possession of slaves, seems to me to be ambiguous: I have the honour to inclose a translation of the last paragraph here referred to. With reference to the last clause above referred to, it may perhaps be supposed that allusion is made simply to the Royal Order communicated to the Marquis de la Pezuela on the 21st of March last, which provides security for the owner of a slave properly registered, from all further inquiry as to that slave's procedency; that Royal Order, however, alludes also to the restraint imposed upon the action of the Government in the repression of Slave Trade, by a "mistaken interpretation" of the IXth Article of the Penal Law of March 2, 1845, and refers to a previous Royal Order for removing that restraint. It appears to have been under that previous Royal Order that General Cañedo authorized last year the invasion of private estates in pursuit of Bozals and Slave Trade offenders, and that measure was then pronounced illegal by the Real Audiencia. The Marquis de la Pezuela, however, under the Royal Order of March last, overcame, as President of the Audiencia, the objections raised in that Court against similar measures on his part, and published in May last, subject to the approval of his Queen, a Decree, which came into operation on the 1st of August last, distinctly authorising the invasion of estates, on grounds of suspicion, within a month after the landing of a cargo of Bozals, and authorizing the visiting of the estates by the authorities whenever they think proper; in addition to which, there is the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March last, ordering the registration of all slaves. I have no doubt that many people here have expected that, under General Concha, Bozals, when once in an estate, might be considered secure. But it seems to me that the only proper way to interpret that expression of his at the end of his circular is, that slaves shall be securely possessed when properly registered.

This registration, however, I have been credibly informed, has been rendered subservient to fraud to a great extent: thousands of slaves, I am

told, have been registered who were not to be found on the estates, but whose arrival from Africa was speculated on. To supply the deficiencies in such cases, slaves have been borrowed on occasions to satisfy the authorities, whose corruption, of course, may very much facilitate such frauds.

Inclosure in No. 27.

Translation of the last paragraph of the Circular addressed, on the 26th of September, 1854, by the Captain-General to the Military and Civil Governors of the Eastern and Western Departments of the Island of Cuba.

IT remains for me, whilst my first attentions to the Government do not permit me to give your Excellency more ample instructions, to point to your Excellency the conduct which you will have to observe in the serious matter of the Trade in Negroes. The frank, sincere, and absolute repression of that infamous Trade, is a sacred duty with Her Majesty's Government in fulfilment of Treaties.

It is no less so with her authorities in this island, and constitutes for them all a question amounting to one of honour. The trade in negroes then must disappear entirely and shall disappear. To this end, in his orders, were the effective endeavours of my worthy predecessor directed; and to the same end will tend those which I may issue in order to put a stop to that immoral and most prejudicial Trade, without disturbing for that purpose the proprietors in the possession of their slaves, under pretext of their procedency, as the laws provide.

No. 28.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received November 1.)*

My Lord,

Havana, October 9, 1854.

WITH reference to my remarks in my preceding despatch on the popular feeling here with regard to the change of government in this island, it may perhaps be worth mentioning that a daily newspaper published here, called the "*Prensa de la Habana*" contained, two days after the arrival of General Concha, a letter addressed to his Excellency, and signed "*Dos Habaneros*," containing extravagant expressions of joy at his return to Cuba. The writers dwelt at some length on the state of Cuba under the late government; they accused the Marquis de la Pezuela by name, of openly opposing the most deeply-rooted customs; of destroying Cuban society; of violating the law; of overthrowing "the idol of enlightenment" ("*el idolo de la ilustracion*"); and of thereby producing general discontent, with a view to obliging the Spanish nation to sell the island to the American Government; and they accused him, moreover, of tyranny. Most, if not all, of these accusations, seem to have reference to his measures for repression of Slave Trade, and to his supposed desire to improve the condition of the blacks in Cuba. Before his Excellency arrived here last year I was informed that his anxiety, when Governor of Puerto Rico, to do justice to all, obtained for him there amongst the Spaniards, a reputation for partiality to the blacks.

Amongst the extravagancies of which the rest of the letter in the "*Prensa*" was full, was a proposal to place a statue of General Concha by the side of a statue which it is proposed to erect here to Columbus. All this tends to show the difficulties which await General Concha if, with the powers now conferred on him, increased as they are since he was here before, he endeavours to act truly in accordance with the Treaty of 1835 with Great Britain.

In consequence of the letter above referred to, and some remarks, I believe, which I have not seen, in another number of the "*Prensa*," the printer of that paper has been fined by the government 5,000 reales fuertes, that is, 645 dollars, or about 130*l.* sterling. I am informed this penalty was inflicted on account of his infringement of the law by printing without the sanction of the Censor of the Press. The Marquis de la Pezuela having requested the "customary" certificate from the Corporation of Havana,

as to the character of his late government of this island, as also an expression of its opinion as to the justness or otherwise of the accusations brought against him, two certificates from the Corporation have appeared in the "Gaceta." The first certificate was to the effect that he had, during the whole time of his government, preserved order and tranquillity, which had never for a moment, in the slightest degree, been disturbed by seditions, insurrections, or insubordination of slaves on estates, nor by anything even threatening the public tranquillity; that he had governed with zeal and efficiency, fidelity to the laws, moderation, forbearance, and humanity, and that he had encouraged, and to a greater extent originated, many public works and measures, all which called for the sincere expression of the gratitude of the Corporation of Havana. The second certificate was expressive of the indignation of the Corporation at what had been published in the "Prensa," which, moreover, it was declared could not have been published legally, and had been justly punished: this certificate concluded with a declaration, that all the inhabitants of Havana admired Señor Pezuela's character and the manner in which he had administered the government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 29.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received November 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, October 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to state that I received early one morning, within the last fortnight, information tending to show the new Captain-General's disposition with regard to Slave Trade, which communication I communicated to Mr. Crawford, with a view to investigation and denouncement, if necessary, but which very soon proved to be not all correct, though it appears to have been partly so. The true part of the story, or that which is not disproved to my knowledge, is as follows: On the 27th ultimo two Spanish war-steamers, the "Pizarro" and "Don Juan de Austria," left this harbour; and it was said that they did so by order of General Concha, to endeavour to capture a slaver which was waiting off some part of the coast of this island with a cargo of negroes on board, which the authorities would not allow to be landed. On the 29th the two steamers returned without a prize; and I was informed that there were said to be four more slavers waiting somewhere off the coast for opportunity to land their cargo. A few days afterwards Mr. Crawford informed me that the two steamers had been to a place on this coast called Manimané, lying to the east of this place, and that 73 Bozals had there been captured on the beach. I believe he has obtained some further information respecting the other slavers.

Some time since I heard that 350 negroes had been landed in the latter part of August last, from an American schooner fitted out at New York, the "*Peerless*," Captain Brand, at a place called Morillos, on the north coast of this island, to the west of Havana; that information of this landing was given to the late Captain-General, and that the negroes were found and seized on a sugar estate; that the supercargo, a Spaniard, by name Vasquez, having received his money, left this port, apparently without attempt at concealment, in an American ship, the "*Cornelia*," on the 10th ultimo, for New York, and that all the crew having received their money, had gone also to the United States.

I beg respectfully to call your Lordship's particular attention to some of the abovementioned facts as instances of what there is reason to think is becoming the general system for carrying on the Slave Trade to this island. Vessels intended for this purpose are fitted out in the United States, generally at New York, and often, I am told, at Charleston and New Orleans, apparently for lawful trade, and commanded and manned by American citizens. Each vessel takes out a passenger, who is generally

a Spaniard, and who, on arriving at the coast of Africa, superintends the getting on board of the slave equipments and cargo, together with a slave crew, generally including Spaniards as well as Portuguese and others, and takes charge of the vessel and cargo for the rest of the voyage. Such appears to be a part of the system generally adopted now. The consequence is, that though the cargo be Spanish property, and the real Captain a Spaniard, yet, because the vessel appears to be American property, and perhaps is really so, no commander of a British cruiser, without good reason for thinking the appearance false, may interfere with her. If the local authorities at the place of landing in Cuba seize some of the negroes in order to escape the punishment for neglecting their duty, the captain and crew need not be arrested, because no such motive exists for their capture as for that of the negroes; and they therefore can go leisurely to the United States in order to enter into engagements to perform their respective parts in a new similar undertaking. Most, if not all, of these circumstances appear to have attended the case of the "*Peerless*," and other cases of recent occurrence. The facilities for carrying out this system of slave-trading are greatly contributed to by the apparent immunity, generally, from seizure of the captain and crew of a slaver.

Mr. Crawford informed me lately, that there had been a slaver wrecked on the Isle of Pines, where 5 Bozal negroes and 2 dead bodies had been found about the 20th of August last, and that the surviving Bozals had declared, through an interpreter of the Congo nation, that they had been cast away, and the whole of the negroes except themselves had been lost, and the master and one or two of the crew saved. It was discovered that the wrecked slaver was American, the master's name Bryan, and that he (the master) had come to Havana, and immediately embarked for Charleston in the American steamer "*Governor Dudley*."

I have heard also of a landing, and seizure by the authorities, of 350 Bozals, about the middle of last month, from a slave brig which appears to have come through a channel some distance to the east of the Isle of Pines, called Canal del Rosario; the master seems to have escaped by coming to Havana, but several of the crew, consisting of Portuguese and two Americans, were on this occasion seized, and are now in prison. I heard at the same time from Mr. Dalrymple, that he had been informed that the crew also of a coasting schooner, which had assisted at the landing, had been seized.

No. 30.

*Messrs. Crawford and Backhouse to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received November 1.)*

My Lord,

Havana, October 10, 1854.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches to us of the 21th of March last,* transmitting to each of us a copy of a note from the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires in London, together with a statement dated February 6th, 1851, received from the Captain-General of Cuba, and communicated with that note to your Lordship, of the number and condition of emancipados in existence at that time in Cuba, and instructing us to compare the details of the Captain-General's statement with such information as may be in our possession with regard to the emancipados, and to transmit to your Lordship a joint report thereupon.

In obedience to your Lordship's instructions, we have now the honour to make our report.

With regard to the first item in the statement received from the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires, namely, the number of emancipados arising from prizes made by English cruisers, we have to observe that this includes only those who were taken and emancipated under the Treaty of 1817, and who, unlike those liberated under similar circumstances under

* See Class A, presented 1854, No. 44.

the Treaty now in force, were not necessarily immediately on their liberation placed at the disposal of the British Government.

In looking through the correspondence of the British Commission, we have found the numbers of these negroes regularly recorded in their proper places in the half-yearly returns of cases adjudicated; but occasionally, and not always, we have found also abstracts of the registers of the negroes emancipated in consequence of the decisions of the Mixed Court in these cases: these abstracts of registers generally give the numbers as smaller, sometimes much smaller, than the numbers given in the half-yearly returns; and the diminutions are sometimes specially accounted for by the number of deaths occurring between the time of the captured vessel being brought into the Havana and that of the issuing of the decree of the emancipation of the negroes brought on board. When we have met with these abstracts of registers, we have of course adopted the numbers given in them. These registers of emancipados make a reduction by some hundreds, altogether, on the numbers reported in the half-yearly returns above alluded to.

By our calculation on these bases, we make the number of emancipados to be included in this first item to amount to 8,725, as is shown in the inclosed list No. 1. The Spanish statement makes it 8,764, a difference of 39.

There is one case which appears to call for some special explanatory remark; it is that of the schooner called the "*Negrita*." This schooner was captured in March 1833, by Lieutenant Bolton, commanding the "*Nimble*," and had a cargo of negroes on board, which, by one death which occurred after her arrival in this harbour, and before sentence was pronounced, was reduced to the number of 195. These 195 were said to have cholera raging amongst them, and the authorities of the Havana being afraid to allow them to land, for fear of infection, the negroes who were pronounced emancipated were all, without landing here, removed under the charge of the captor, and at the expense of the Spanish Government, to the Island of Trinidad. These negroes are, it will be seen, included among the 8,725 in this first item, and of course are taken into account in the proper place among the deductions to be made afterwards.

With respect to the second item, referring to those of the emancipados who have been at various times seized by the Spanish authorities, we at first made the numbers of this class of emancipados, according to the documents in the archives of the British Commission, to amount to 3,052, by counting down to the 20th of June, 1853, the time of the latest seizure previous to the date of the Spanish statement of February 6, 1854. But in consequence of a communication from the Political Secretary referred to in the note at the end of the inclosed list No. 2, we have now, by counting, as will be seen, those emancipados only who had been seized more than five years before the date last mentioned, reduced the numbers to 2,009. The number given in the Spanish statement is 2,479, making a difference of 470.

We have to observe that we have here counted the 400, or thereabout, who were brought in the "*Maria de la Gloria*." This vessel was captured in the year 1824, on the coast of Cuba, by the Spanish brig of war "*Marte*," and was said to have been captured previously by a Spanish privateer, the "*Romano*," on the coast of Africa. This latter assertion was conjectured by the British Commission to be only a cloak to the fact of her being really Spanish property. On her arrival at Havana she was brought at first before the Spanish Court of Admiralty, and afterwards, on the suggestion of Mr. Kilbee, the British Commissary Judge, before the Mixed Commission, which, after a few days' examination of witnesses, decided that it could not adjudicate this vessel, as she appeared to be really the property of Portuguese subjects of Brazil; and all the documents were decreed to be returned to the Captain-General, together with a certified copy of the proceedings of the Commission. The negroes were taken charge of by the Government, emancipated, and distributed among private individuals, who took charge of them.

The correspondence which took place at the time on this subject is very voluminous; and the latest despatch which we find giving any information on the subject of these negroes is one written by Mr. Kilbee, and

dated November 15, 1821, in which he states that those who received any of them in deposit paid 51 dollars for each, and that he had heard, upon good authority, that more than one of the depositaries had sold the negroes confided to them.*

We have in the inclosed list set down these emancipados as 400; it is not quite clear what was the exact number emancipated. Mr. Kilbee states, in his despatch above referred to, that 401 were brought to the Havana, and that only 4 or 5 had died by the time of the first distribution. There was a notice published under the authority of the Admiral at this port, in the "Gazette," in June last, giving the names and register numbers of 104 negresses who were brought in this vessel, together with the names of persons under whose charge they were placed in the year 1824, and requiring those persons to bring the said negresses, and their children and other descendants, to the depository under the charge of Don Francisco Marty y Torrens, who holds an office here under the Admiral, within a few days of the date of the publication, and warning those persons that, in default, they would become liable for wages, and would subject themselves to the penalties inflicted by law for detention of property, besides having to pay all costs. In this notice the "*Maria de la Gloria*" was described as a Portuguese vessel. Moreover, the negroes captured in this vessel were stated, in a despatch from Mr. Canning to Her Majesty's Commissioners of the 24th of January, 1825, as not coming "strictly under the provisions of the Treaty;" and we should have supposed that they were not intended to be included in the Spanish statement, which we supposed to be understood to have reference solely to the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain, had it not appeared to us inconsistent to omit these when there are other negroes under similar circumstances who clearly ought not to be left out; as, for instance, those captured in 1842 in another Portuguese vessel, the "*Aurelia Felis*." This vessel was captured by the Spanish brig of war "Cubano;" was brought before the Mixed Court, which decided that it had no jurisdiction in the case, and was afterwards condemned by the Captain-General, who emancipated the negroes to the number, as appears from the Captain-General's letter to the Commissioners of March 20, 1842, of 288. Our reason for not excluding these last-mentioned negroes from this list is, that we find some of them included in the lists of those liberated and sent to Jamaica as emancipados under the Treaty.

The result is, that we make the sum total of emancipados of more than five years' standing, proceeding from British and Spanish captures together, 10,734, whereas in the Spanish statement it is 11,243, the difference being 509.

We then come to the deductions made from the numbers above given.

The first item under this head in the Spanish statement is the number of those who, comprised in the list of those captured by British cruisers and emancipated by the Mixed Court, were afterwards delivered to British authorities, and removed to the Island of Trinidad. The Spanish statement gives this number as 978, whereas we make it, from the detailed records in the British Commission, as is shown in the inclosed list No. 3, 1,173.

The difference in this item, between the Spanish statement and the records possessed by the British Commission, is 195, exactly the number removed under special circumstances under charge of the Commander of the "Negrita," which case, included in our inclosed list, it is to be supposed has been overlooked in this part of the Spanish statement.

On the next item in the Spanish statement, relating to 147 said to have been liberated up to the end of December 1840, we have to report that there is no record whatever in the British archives of any having been liberated till the year 1841, when Mr. Jackson (formerly clerk to the British Commission) was allowed to take one to England.

The Spanish statement gives, next, the number of 2,063 as of those freed to the 30th of November, 1853, counting of course from the end of

* See Class A, presented 1825, p. 125.

1840. There is a note appended to this item, stating that among the 2,063 emancipados freed up to the 30th November, 1853, are included 600, with 124 children, who were delivered up to the British functionaries at Havana from the 30th of September, 1844, to the 18th of June, 1852, and who were conveyed to Jamaica in the English mail steamers.

From the accompanying list, marked as Inclosure 4, it appears that, according to the reports contained in the archives of Her Majesty's Commission, 1,860 emancipados, of both sexes, have been made free between the end of the year 1840 and the 30th November, 1853, and to these 1,860 are added 492 children, the offspring of some of the women; and that of these numbers 589 emancipados, with 121 children, were delivered to British functionaries, and sent to Jamaica within the term specified in the Spanish statement, there having been however two subsequent deliveries which raise the numbers to 597 emancipados, with 126 children. It is to be observed that by the children enumerated in this statement, are meant those who had been born in this country, no matter how long ago, the offspring of emancipados, and therefore free from their birth; but it is not distinctly stated in the note appended to the Spanish statement whether the children therein stated as 124 in number, are or are not amongst the 2,063 emancipados; and it would seem desirable that this point should be ascertained.

We have now shown that whereas the Spanish statement, with the two numbers, 147 and 2,063, gives, exclusive of those formerly sent to Trinidad, 2,210 as the number of emancipados who have been freed, we cannot discover from the documents to which we have access more than 1,860 (exclusive of the Creole children), 350 less than the number in the Spanish statement. According to either account, more than two-thirds of those freed since 1840 appear to have received permission to remain in this island; and, to account for the difference of 350 between the two accounts, it must, we suppose, be presumed that emancipados to that number have received their liberty, and permission to remain here, and the facts been omitted to be communicated to the Mixed Commission. Such omission would, it is true, be contrary to the provision of Article VI of Annex C to the Treaty; but the non-observance of that Article on the part of every Captain-General since the existence of the present Treaty has been so invariable as to render the Article practically quite a dead letter: and in support of the supposition that there has been omission of the particular kind in question, we beg to refer your Lordship to a letter from General Concha to Mr. Crawford dated the 19th September, 1851,* in which his Excellency, on delivering up 2 emancipados to be sent to Jamaica, speaks of them as of a selection from among several whom he had lately freed, and respecting whom we can find no further mention, not even as to the number of them.

With regard to the large number 5,957, forming in the Spanish statement the only other item of deductions to be made from the numbers arising out of the seizures, we have to report that we have no means of verifying it. At the same time it appears to us that, for the sake of correct information, such a confused statement as this single item presents could never be considered satisfactory, and that we could never, on any future occasion, be enabled to verify any portion of it, unless it be broken up so as, at least, to distinguish the dead from the living, and those whose mental or bodily health or condition in other respects may undergo a change, as has already occurred, at least in the one instance, referred to in the last note to the Spanish statement, of a reclaimed runaway.

As to the 2,098 individuals who form the remainder, after all the above-mentioned deductions, and who are said in the Spanish statement to have been freed and hired out as labourers, in conformity with the Ordinance published on the 1st of January last, because they wished to remain in the island, we must confess that we are quite unable to test the accuracy of this part of the statement. Some scanty information on this subject appeared scattered through several numbers of the "Gaceta" in the month of August last, by the publication of the accounts of the

* See Class A, presented 1852, page 49.

“Junta Protectora de Emancipados” down to the 30th of June. Many of the items in those accounts consisted of compensation paid by the Junta to persons who by the new arrangements were deprived of a portion of the length of service for which certain emancipados had previously been assigned to them: in some cases the numbers of emancipados in question were stated, but in others they were vaguely described as “various workmen,” and the numbers positively stated did not amount to more than 389.

As to the two negroes referred to in the two notes at the end of the Spanish statement, one having been falsely reported dead, in reality sold as a slave, whose case is referred to in page 65 of Slave Trade Papers presented to Parliament in 1854, Class A, and the other being a reclaimed runaway, we have to observe that it is not stated whether they were still to be included in the large miscellaneous collection of 5,957, or to be added to the 2,098 who were hired out as labourers.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.
G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 30.

LIST OF EMANCIPADOS from British Prizes.

X according to Register.

O according to half-yearly Returns.

When Emancipated.	Marks.	From what Vessel.	Number of Emancipados.
In 1825	O	Relampago	159
1826	X	Isabel	10
"	O	Magico	179
"	O	Fingal	58
"	O	Orestes	238
"	X	Campeador	211
1828	X	Xerxes	385
"	X	Intrepido	133
"	X	Maria	1
"	X	Firme de Cadiz	483
1829	X	Josefa	202
"	X	Voladora (á) Mulata	330
"	X	Midas (á) Providencia	208
"	X	Gallito	135
1830	X	Santiago	100
"	X	Emilio (á) Cæsar	187
1832	X	Planeta	236
"	X	Aguila	596
"	X	Indagadora	134
"	X	Negrita	477
1833	{ According to a receipt on their being taken to Trinidad. }	Negrita	195
"			
"	X	Joaquina	321
"	O	Manuelita	485
1834	X	Rosa	289
"	X	Carlota	163
1835	X	Maria	340
"	X	Zulita	336
"	X	Chubasco	230
"	X	Joven Reyna	254
"	X	Marte	326
"	X	Zita	392
Carried over			7,793

When Emancipated.	Marks.	From what Vessel.	Number of Emancipados.
1835	X	Brought over.. .. Amalia	7,793 200
"	X	Diligencia	94
* { 1836	O	Ninfa (á) Matancera	450
"	O	Ricomar (á) Zafira	188
			8,725

Inclosure 2 in No. 30.

STATEMENT of Emancipados proceeding from Seizures by Local Authorities in Cuba.

Date of Despatches relating to them.	Circumstance of Seizure, &c.	Numbers said to have been emancipated.
Nov. 15, 1824 ..	Brought in the " <i>Maria de la Gloria</i> ," a Portuguese vessel captured by a Spanish brig of war, about	400
Sept. 4, 1825.. ..	Seized by police in one of the Barracoons	5
Dec. 15, 1834 ..	A part of the cargo escaped on shore from the " <i>Carlota</i> " when chased by Her Majesty's ship " <i>Nimble</i> ," and arrested afterwards in the Province of Cuba by order of the Governor (the remainder being captured with the " <i>Carlota</i> " by the " <i>Nimble</i> ," and brought to Havana)	73
May 25 and June 26, 1841	All the surviving Bozals from the wreck of the " <i>Aguila</i> ," seized by local authorities, and sent before the Mixed Court, which decided that this case was not within its jurisdiction	413
Jan. 31, 1842 ..	Captured by subordinate authorities in the quarter of Majana District of Pependencias. Unknown where or from what vessel they were disembarked	150
March 12 & March 16, 1842	Believed to be part of the cargo of the " <i>Duquesa de Braganza</i> ," otherwise the " <i>Venus</i> ," which, it was said, had 800 on board	49
March 7, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23, and 28, 1843	Negroes landed from the " <i>Aurelia Felis</i> ," a Portuguese schooner. Seizures were made at different time, amounting altogether to	288
August 23, 1842 ..	15 seized in district of Camarioca, in anchoring place called Caleta de Barca; 10 in the same district on beach of Punta de Maya; and 80 on the coast at Matanzas	105
Sept. 23, 1842 ..	Seized in the Province of Cuba, on the coast of Savana le Mar. The despatch mentions them as 168; but the Captain-General's letter inclosed mentions 144 sent to Havana, and 23 remaining sick in Cuba, making altogether	167
Oct. 20, 1843 ..	Out of a cargo said to consist of 900 brought in the " <i>Palmyra Segunda</i> ," there were seized on the beach at Puerto Escondido, on north coast between Havana and Matanzas	93
Carried over		1,743

* These last two cases ought to have been dealt with according to the Treaty of 1835, and the negroes on being emancipated should therefore have been at once put under the charge of British authorities, and removed from Cuba. Their being improperly dealt with according to the old Treaty, was owing to the delay of the Spanish Government to send out notice of the ratification of the new one. (See Class A, presented 1847, pp. 128, 129.)

Date of Despatches relating to them.	Circumstance of Seizure, &c.	Numbers said to have been emancipated.
Nov. 5, 1847, and Jan. 1, 1848	Brought over Seizure under General O'Donnell, described as 106 in Mr. Crawford's despatch of November 5, 1847, but subsequently in Mr. Kennedy's despatch of January 1, 1848, as	1,743 136
July 26 and August 2, 1848	Captured by Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel on being found disembarked at Cabañas—the first seizure made under General Roncali	130
	Total number of Emancipados proceeding from seizures made by local authorities in Cuba more than five years before the date of the Spanish statement of February 6, 1854	2,009

NOTE.—In answer to an inquiry made privately by Mr. Crawford, the Political Secretary stated a short time ago, before the arrival of General Concha, that the 2,098 freed emancipados mentioned at the end of the Spanish statement as having been hired out as labourers, are those only who had been more than five years in this country, and that in that number were not included the apprentices, who had not been here so long, and who, he said, were those seized in the time of the Governments of Generals Roncali, Concha, and Cañedo. The total number of negroes seized and emancipated by these three Captains-General, according to the information we possess,* amounts to 1,173; 2 included in a seizure of 174 by Count Alcoy (General Roncali) having died before the emancipation of the rest: but the number, according to the same information, of those emancipated within the five years immediately preceding the date of the Spanish statement, was only 1,043. General Roncali arrived here in the early part of the year 1848; and the first seizure made under his Government was that of 130 reported in July 1848, more than five years before the date of the Spanish statement, and therefore included in the above list. The next seizure was of 85 negroes, and was effected also during the time of General Roncali, on the 27th February, 1849, and being by a few days within the five years referred to, is excluded from this list.

Inclosure 3 in No. 30.

LIST OF EMANCIPADOS taken by British Cruizers, and removed to Trinidad.

When Removed.	Circumstances of Capture and Removal.	Numbers Removed.
In 1833	Taken in the " <i>Negrita</i> ," in the early part of 1833, and immediately after emancipation removed to Trinidad, without ever landing in Cuba	195
In January, 1834 .	Selected from those captured in the " <i>Manuelita</i> " and " <i>Joaquina</i> ," and taken in the former vessel to Trinidad	212
In March, 1834 ..	Selected from those brought in the " <i>Rosa</i> ," and removed to Trinidad	194
In February, 1835	Selected from those brought in the " <i>Maria</i> " and " <i>Zulita</i> ," and removed to Trinidad	304
August 6, 1835 .	From the " <i>Zita</i> "	268
		1,173

* See Class A, presented 1854, pp. 40 and 41.

Inclosure 4 in No. 30.

LIST of EMANCIPADOS liberated up to the end of November 1853.

Dates of Despatches reporting on them.	Remarks.	Numbers liberated.	
		Adults.	Children.
January 25, 1842	Remaining in the Island of Cuba	85	24
March 3, "	ditto	136	66
April 3, "	ditto	102	33
May 3, "	ditto	129	48
June 3, "	ditto	59	22
July 3, "	ditto	152	36
August 4, "	ditto	76	17
September 2, "	ditto	58	9
October 3, "	ditto	39	14
November 3, "	ditto	47	14
December 2, "	ditto	21	8
January 2, 1843	ditto	16	4
February 3, "	ditto	29	9
March 2, "	ditto	36	5
April 3, "	ditto	47	4
May 3, "	ditto	29	1
June 3, "	ditto	32	2
July 1, "	ditto	31	7
August 3, "	ditto	20	10
September 3, "	ditto	20	9
October 4, "	Remaining in the Island of Cuba By General Valdes, just before his departure on the termination of his Governorship of the island.	6	
	Remaining in the Island of Cuba By General Ulloa, who assumed the Govern- ment of the Island till the arrival of the new Captain-General O'Donnell.	14	3
November 3, "	Remaining in the Island of Cuba By General Ulloa.	9	5
	Remaining in the Island of Cuba By General O'Donnell, the new Captain-General.	3	5
December 12, "	Remaining in the Island of Cuba A woman with 4 children, mentioned besides in the Captain-General's letter inclosed in the despatch	3 1	4
January 1, 1844	Remaining in the Island of Cuba	6	2
February 2, "	ditto	5	5
	Carried over	1,211	366

Dates of Despatches reporting on them.		Remarks.	Numbers liberated.	
			Adults.	Children.
October 5, 1844	Brought over	1,211	366	
	Remaining in the Island of Cuba	33		
	Sent to Jamaica	4		
The liberation of these two numbers of emancipados, amounting to 37, was announced in a letter from the Captain-General to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, dated September 27, 1844, in which his Excellency offered to give up 4 to Mr. Crawford, to be sent by him out of the island. Mr. Crawford, after consulting with Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, agreed to take the 4 on the proposed condition, and wrote a letter to that effect to the Captain-General, dated September 29, and the negroes were sent to Jamaica. (See Parliamentary "Slave Trade Papers," presented 1845, Class B, p. 101; and Class A, page 440, presented 1846.)				
February 3, 1845	Sent to Jamaica	30	19	
May 2, "	ditto	34	13	
June 2, "	ditto	10	2	
July 2, "	ditto	12		
August 4, "	ditto	15	11	
September 1, "	ditto	15	2	
October 1, "	ditto	19	9	
October 31, "	ditto	16	3	
Mentioned in the same despatch as having been taken to England by Mr. Jackson, with permission from the authorities here, in 1841 ..		1		
December 1, "	Sent to Jamaica	14	1	
January 31, 1846	ditto	15		
March 2, "	ditto	13		
April 2, "	ditto	18	2	
April 29, "	ditto	17		
June 8, "	ditto	10	6	
July 1, "	ditto	14	2	
July 31, "	ditto	10	4	
September 7, "	ditto	12	5	
September 30, "	ditto	7	2	
October 30, "	ditto	7		
December 4, "	ditto	9	2	
December 31, "	ditto	6		
February 8, 1847	ditto	7	1	
March 2, "	ditto	10	1	
April 10, "	ditto	8	1	
May 1, "	ditto	7		
July 31, "	ditto	4		
Carried over		1,588	452	

Dates of Despatches reporting on them.		Remarks.	Numbers liberated.	
			Adults.	Children.
July	31, 1847	Brought over Remaining in the Island of Cuba, a woman reported in the despatch of this date as having been deposited for removal, but too ill to go. There is no account of her afterwards	1,588 1	452
August	30, "	Sent to Jamaica	6	2
October	8, "	ditto	7	1
October	30, "	ditto	10	1
December	2, "	ditto	8	1
December	27, "	ditto	6	
February	25, 1848	Remaining in the Island of Cuba	17	
May	27, "	Sent to Jamaica	6	
June	26, "	ditto	8	
July	27, "	ditto	4	1
September	5, "	ditto	3	
September	27, "	ditto	5	1
October	27, "	ditto	2	
November	26, "	ditto	4	
December	29, "	ditto	6	1
January	29, 1849	ditto	3	
March	9, " }	ditto	2	2
April	2, " }			
April	30, "	ditto	4	3
June	1, "	ditto	4	2
June	26, "	ditto	3	
August	7, "	ditto	3	1*
August	28, "	ditto	13	
September	29, "	ditto	13	
October	31, "	ditto	12	1
November	30, "	ditto	6	
February	4, 1850	ditto	9	2
March	4, "	ditto	7	1
March	30, "	ditto	3	
May	3, "	ditto	6	
June	27, "	ditto	8	
		Carried over	1,777	472

* The one reckoned as a child sent on this day was in the original report at the time, incorrectly described as an emancipado. He was born in this country, and was the son (aged 17) of a woman who had died in 1833, and who had been brought to this island in the "*Firme*," in 1828. His passage to Jamaica was charged as for an adult emancipado.

Dates of Despatches reporting on them.	Remarks.	Numbers liberated.	
		Adults.	Children.
July 29, 1850	Brought over Sent to Jamaica	1,777 6	472 4
September 23, ..	ditto	12	
October 24, ..	ditto	6	1
December 25, ..	ditto	3	
January 23, 1851	ditto	5	2
March 25, ..	ditto	6	1
April 24, ..	ditto	5	
May 24, ..	ditto	3	
June 23, ..	ditto	5	
July 23, ..	ditto	3	2
August 23, ..	ditto	4	1
September 23, ..	ditto This despatch incloses a letter from General Concha, dated September 18, 1851, in which he speaks of these 2 negroes as of a selection from among several whom he had lately freed.	2	
October 23, ..	Sent to Jamaica	3	4
December 23, ..	ditto	3	
January 26, 1852	ditto	3	
June 22, ..	ditto This despatch incloses a letter from General Cañedo, delivering up the 6 negroes, dated June 18, 1852, the date terminating the period referred to in note to the Spanish statement respecting the emancipados who were sent to Jamaica.	6	
December 10, ..	Sent to Jamaica	6	1
March 13, 1853	ditto	2	4
		1,860	492
	Difference	203	..
	Spanish Statement being ..	2,063	

This list makes it appear that within the period mentioned in the Spanish statement, viz., from September 30, 1844, to June 18, 1852, only 589, with 121 children, were sent to Jamaica. By taking into account the two subsequent deliveries, the dates of which were perhaps overlooked in the drawing up of the Spanish statement, the numbers are made to be 597, with 126 children. But this part of the statement might be brought still more nearly to correspond with the Spanish by including in it the woman mentioned as having been too ill to go in July 1847. Her name was in the tabular list of those delivered up to be sent away, and she may have been counted as having actually gone. The son of a deceased emancipada, removed in August 1849, may also have been counted as an emancipado, and not as a child of one. By such calculations the numbers are made to be 599, with 125 children.

No. 31.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1854.

WITH reference to the joint report from you and Mr. Crawford of the 10th of October, by which it appears that the difficulty which you have experienced in properly testing the accuracy of the Spanish statement respecting the emancipados which accompanied my despatch to you of the 24th of March last, has arisen in a great measure from the omission of the proper authorities in Cuba to send to the Mixed Commission at Havana the half-yearly lists of emancipated negroes, which, according to the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, ought to be kept in the office of the Captain-General of Cuba, I have to instruct you to request the Captain-General to give directions in order that the lists in question may in future be delivered regularly to the Mixed Commission of which you are a member.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 32.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received December 2.)*

My Lord,

Havana, November 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that a few days ago Mr. Dalrymple was informed by a person likely to be well acquainted with what occurred at Bahia Honda, that a large brig had landed upwards of 700 Bozal negroes at Bahia Honda on or about the 19th ultimo, that she immediately afterwards sailed for the United States, and that her late captain had gone to the United States also, to take command of another vessel which was ready to sail to the coast of Africa.

On account of the latter part of this information, though unable to obtain any confirmation of it, I thought it my duty to take advantage of the sailing of Her Majesty's sloop "Espiègle" yesterday morning for Jamaica, to report it to Commodore Henderson, more especially as it is certain that there are many slave expeditions fitting out generally in certain ports of the United States, and as it appeared, if the account was true, that the Spanish flag was employed.

I have the honour to inclose an extract of my letter to Commodore Henderson.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Her Majesty's Commissary-Judge to Commodore Henderson.

(Extract.)

Havana, November 7, 1854.

I HAVE heard of another brig having landed a large cargo of negroes at Bahia Honda on or about the 19th ultimo; and I was informed that she immediately afterwards sailed for the United States, it may reasonably be supposed for another voyage thence to Africa. She was said to be a large brig, built at Baltimore, commanded by a Frenchman, and under Spanish colours. The French captain is said to have boasted of having made seven successful slave voyages to this island. I regret to say I have not heard his name. He is said to have come, after this last voyage, to Havana, and to have embarked here on the 23rd ultimo, without a passport, in an American steamer for the United States; and it was said that he was going to Baltimore to take command of another vessel already prepared for a voyage to Africa.

No. 33.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th ultimo, and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having addressed Admiral Henderson on the subject of a brig which was believed to have sailed for the United States after having landed a cargo of 700 slaves at Bahia Honda.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 34.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received January 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translation of a Decree issued by the Captain-General on the 17th of November, and published in the official "Gazette" of the Havana of the following day, containing new regulations for the suppression of Slave Trade. The Regulations published on the 3rd of May and 28th of July last, and communicated in my despatches of the 10th of May and 3rd of August,* are, it will be observed, by the last Article of these new Regulations, repealed.

The tendency of the present Regulations seems to be to secure the execution of the laws in force against Slave Trade, by laying down strict rules for the guidance of the various authorities and their agents in the performance of their respective duties, and by offering inducements to zeal by some fixed scale of prize and bounty money; a measure, the principle of which has been totally neglected hitherto on the part of Spain with regard to Slave Trade, except in the comparatively unimportant circular now set aside, of the 28th of July, establishing a fixed scale of rewards for the apprehension of stray Bozals.

It is to be observed, that by the 4th Article of the new Regulations the authorities are expressly permitted, on occasions and under restrictions, to enter estates when in pursuit of Bozal negroes.

But there is one point which has appeared to me open to objection. In the 12th Article mention is made of a fund, out of which the captors of slavers are to be remunerated: the fund is to be collected from three sources, which are specified; and one of those sources is, the proceeds of the sale of the fragments and contents of the captured vessels: a few subsequent Articles are devoted to an explanation of the shares which are to be apportioned to the several persons who may have taken part in the capture; and in the 15th Article it is provided that the whole of the fund is to be distributed to the naval forces if to them exclusively the seizure should be owing—that is, of course, if a Spanish ship of war effect the capture, and no allusion is anywhere made to the Mixed Courts. But in the event of a Spanish ship of war capturing a slaver belonging to Great Britain or Spain, the prize must, under the 1st Article of Annex A to the Treaty of 1835, be brought before one of the Mixed Courts established under that Treaty; and the VIth Article of Annex B to the same Treaty provides, that if the detained vessel be condemned, that vessel, having been consequently broken up according to the XIth Article of the Treaty, shall be sold in fragments, together with her cargo, for the profit of the two Governments, subject to the payment of expenses. The proceeds, therefore, of such sale can never be considered entirely at the disposal of the Spanish Government or of any Spanish authority, and therefore

* Nos. 21 and 25.

cannot, by a Spanish Decree, be appropriated entirely in the manner described in the Decree in question.

On the 25th of November, the "Gazette" published the directions which the Captain-General had given to the Admiral of this port, and to the Superintendent of the Coast Guard, for the carrying out of the object of this Decree; and from the Admiral's answer, which also was published at the same time, and in which the Admiral surrendered his claim to any share in the prize-money, it appears that the "Ordenanza" referred to at the end of the 15th Article of the inclosed Decree, is one of the year 1779, relating to prizes.

Previously, however, to the date of the last-mentioned publication, I had stated my opinion to the Secretary of the Mixed Court, that a letter should be addressed by the Court to the Captain-General on the subject of the Decree which had already appeared; and accordingly, after a few days' delay, in the course of which the publication of the 25th ultimo appeared, a meeting of the Mixed Court was held on the 28th, for the purpose proposed by me. I have the honour to inclose a translation of the report drawn up by the Secretary of the meeting, including the letter to the Captain-General, which was also drawn up by the Secretary, and signed by the two Judges. The letter does not appear to me as clearly expressed as I should have wished; it was explained to me, that it was as plain as the notions of propriety entertained here could allow a letter of such a nature to the Captain-General to be; and, as it did moreover refer to the two Articles, 12 and 15, in the Regulations, on which I founded my objection, I thought it best to avoid discussion upon its obscurity.

I regret to have to add, that no answer has yet been received from the Captain-General.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Office of the Government Secretary.

THE laws which have for their object the definite abolition and consequent repression of the Slave Trade, are, from their international character, from their political and economical nature, and by their social ends, among those whose faithful and absolute fulfilment claims, in indisputable preference, public interest.

It is the duty, then, of those in authority to promote the execution of those laws with constant zeal and energy, taking care, however, that the means which they employ for that purpose may prevent and repress the baneful designs of avarice, without neglecting the considerations relating to the legitimate interests of property.

Therefore, considering that although the administrative authorities must necessarily, in order to accomplish their ends, possess the powers requisite for the investigation of the *corpus delicti* in every clandestine introduction of negroes which they may prosecute, it is their duty to limit the exercise thereof to what is necessary for the discharge of their preventive duties, without causing the rights of property and domestic inviolability to be infringed, or the protection which the institution of tribunals affords to the supposed criminals diminished;

Considering that the discretionary cooperation of private individuals cannot extend to the execution, properly so-called, of the laws without disparagement to constituted authority and serious danger to good order; it being important nevertheless that their interest should be excited, so that they may assist the ends of government within the limits which the principles of good government determine;

And considering, lastly, the convenience which will result to the service of the State from recompensing the zeal which either the authorities or their subordinate agents may display in the persecution of the most immoral of all illicit trades;

I have decreed the following:

Art. 1. As soon as the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, Captains of Districts, and their Lieutenants, possess information of an approaching landing of negroes, they shall make it known to their immediate chief, and directly to this Supreme Government, and shall give notice of it to such Captain of one of Her Majesty's ships, and to such Chief Officer of the Coast Guard, as they may be able to communicate it to with the greatest promptness and facility.

Art. 2. On the certainty or suspicion of a landing having been effected, the local authority shall of himself take all the measures and precautions which he may judge convenient for intercepting it, and shall give account to this Supreme Government and to his immediate chief, of all his operations, communicating such information as he may obtain in succession to the Captains of Her Majesty's ships, and to the Chief Officers of the Coast Guard.

Art. 3. The capture of a slave-vessel, or the seizure of the landed negroes, having been effected, the local authority shall give a detailed account of all to his immediate chief, to the judicial authority,

and to this Supreme Government directly, he being responsible for the prize until he effect the delivering over of it in regular form.

Art. 4. If the introducers should succeed in evading pursuit, and conveying the whole or a part of the landed negroes on to any estate or estates, the local authority shall have power to enter upon those estates, in order to take the first steps in investigation of the facts; confining himself to counting the number of negroes in existence thereon, and to taking such declarations as may be proper from the owner or administrator with due caution, so that the discipline of the slaves may not suffer.

Art. 5. These preventive steps having been taken, and independently of the exercise, by the police outside, of the necessary vigilance in order that the action of justice may not be eluded, he shall report to the judicial authority every occurrence and proceeding, with all the information he may have obtained, conducing to the discovery of the truth.

Art. 6. Even though the local authority intercept within the estates negroes whom on good grounds he may deem to be proceeding from the fraudulent introduction which he is investigating, he shall not be empowered of himself, in any way, to declare them Bozals, and he shall confine himself to what is laid down in the preceding Article.

Art. 7. If, after having obtained proof of a landing, the local authority shall have good cause for suspecting the clandestine existence, on any estate, of negroes proceeding from it, he shall communicate the fact immediately to the judicial authority, in order that the latter may take steps in consequence; the police, in the meanwhile, as is provided in Article 5, using the necessary vigilance.

Art. 8. Whatever other steps it may be right to take by the Administrative police, for which the examination of the estates may be necessary, cannot be taken without express authority from the competent tribunal.

Art. 9. The judicial authority will consider as a matter of primary importance in the public service, the persecution and repression of the Slave Trade, and must in consequence always appear on the estates immediately on receiving from the local authorities the information referred to in Articles 5 and 7, in order to proceed in the investigation and trial of the offence in question, according to law.

Art. 10. The local authority will transmit directly to this Supreme Government all the information which, in compliance with the preceding Articles, he may communicate to the judicial authority, besides doing the same also to his immediate chief. He will likewise communicate the proceedings which he may institute by delegation from the said judicial authority.

Art. 11. Every person who may have information of a project of landing negroes, shall be authorized to give it to the supreme authority here, or to the local authorities.

In the event of the latter receiving it, they shall transmit to the declarant a copy of the communication in which they transmit it to this Government, for his security and remuneration for his service, according to Article 13.

Art. 12. On each seizure there shall be established a fund, composed of the sum of 25 dollars for each negro liberated, which sum may be raised by the "Junta de Emancipados," whatever may be their sex and age, from the proceeds of the sale by public auction of the fragments of the captured vessel, and the effects which it may contain, and from the amount of the fines imposed in consequence of the judicial proceeding which may be instituted.

Art. 13. The third part of the said fund shall accrue to the person or persons who, giving timely notice to the authority of the projected clandestine landing, may thus have facilitated the seizure on the coast, or before the introduction on to the estates.

Art. 14. The remaining two-thirds shall be employed entirely as a reward to the authorities and forces which may have contributed to the seizure, in such manner as may be determined by this Supreme Government with regard to each case in consideration of its special circumstances, besides proposing further, if it should be right, to Her Majesty's Government, the rewards with which the zeal and activity displayed in this important part of the public service ought to be remunerated.

Art. 15. The supreme authority here shall, on consultation with the Naval Commander-in-chief, declare the part which is to be assigned to the forces by sea, there being made amongst them a distribution of the portion specified, or occasionally of the whole, if to them exclusively the seizure should be owing, according to decree.

Art. 16. The supreme authority of the island will not in any case participate in the distribution which is provided for in the preceding Articles.

Art. 17. There will be exacted from the authorities and subordinate agents whose duty it is to take part in the persecution of Slave Trade, the strictest responsibility in the discharge of their duties; and any of their acts or omissions whatever in contravention to what is provided in this Decree will produce immediately their removal, independently of their being brought before the tribunals in cases which the laws determine.

Art. 18. The Codes of the 3rd of May and 28th of July last are annulled, the present Decree being required to be published in the official journals, and to be stuck up in print in public places in order that its provisions may come to the knowledge of all the inhabitants of the island.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, November 17, 1854.

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

Report.

(Translation.)

I, DR. DON JOSE ANTONIO VALDES, Her Majesty's Secretary to the Mixed Court of Justice, established for the abolition of the Slave Trade under the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, certify, that at a meeting held by this Court, on the day specified, the following act and official letter were agreed to:—

In the always most faithful city of Havana, on the 28th of November, 1854, his Excellency Don José Buenaventura Esteva, Marquis de Esteva de las Delicias, &c., Spanish Judge of the Mixed

Court of Justice, established for the abolition of the African Slave Trade, under the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, and Mr. George Canning Backhouse, British Judge of the same Court, said that this Court having met in consequence of the verbal invitation of the British Judge, in order to make certain observations occasioned by certain Articles of the Supreme Decree of his Excellency the Governor and Captain-General, issued on the 17th instant, published in the official "Gazette" of the 18th, a copy of which is annexed, on the promoting of the execution of the laws which have for their object the definitive abolition and consequent repression of the Slave Trade, they had proceeded, having before them the Treaty concluded between the Government of Her Catholic Majesty and that of Her Britannic Majesty in 1835, with the same object, to enter into discussion, with due circumspection, respecting the arrangements which the said Decree contains, on account of the necessary harmony in which it ought to be with the said Treaty, it being resolved to address respectfully to his Excellency, a communication in the terms which in the Act were drawn up in conformity with the draft which appears below, in order that it might subsequently be delivered in the official customary form to his said Excellency the Governor and Captain-General, with which the Act was concluded, his Excellency and his Honour signing together with the Government Interpreter, which I the Secretary certify.

(Signed)

EL MARQUES DE ESTEVA.

G. C. BACKHOUSE.

ERNESTO SAPORTAS.

DR. JOSE ANTONIO VALDES, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 34.

The Mixed Court of Justice to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir,

THE principal object of your Excellency's Supreme Decree of the 17th instant, published in the official "Gazette" of the same day, to promote with constant zeal and energy the laws which have for their object the definitive abolition and consequent repression of the Slave Trade, shows that the arrangement which the 12th Article of the said Decree contains on the application of the proceeds from the captured vessels being sold in fragments, appears only to relate to those which may be captured by the local authorities in the act, or before or after it, of disembarking negroes. But as cases may occur in which some, though anchored on the coast, may escape the vigilance of such authorities, and may come to be lawfully detained in flight, or on a fresh voyage to the continent of Africa, by a Spanish or English cruiser, which ought then to deliver or send it to one of the places where Mixed Courts exist, the prize, however, belonging to the respective Commander holding the rank stated in the Treaty of 1835; and as, besides, the authoritative sentence rests with the Mixed Court to which the cause may be submitted, and the vessel, when condemned, is, after being broken up, sold with her cargo by public auction, for the benefit of both Contracting Powers after payment of costs, we have considered it our duty to request your Excellency to be pleased to give the explanation which may be fitting, whereupon may rest secure the Treaty and the powers which, in virtue of it, belong to the Mixed Court, in order that if the cruiser be Spanish, there may be no conflict between the instructions of Annex A, which, as well as the other two Annexes, forms an integral part of the said Treaty, and those instructions which your Excellency's Supreme Decree contains, the former or the latter being employed according to the cases which they may suit, nor with what is laid down in Article 15 of the latter, respecting that which is to be adjudged to the naval forces, respecting which latter, moreover, the said Treaty lays down the necessary rule. Having stated the object which induces this respectful communication formally resolved this day, to which, moreover, we are encouraged by your Excellency's very punctilious concern for the faithful and absolute fulfilment of the laws for the abolition of so criminal a trade, to the spirit of which laws you appear so much to adhere, in order completely to check every infraction of them, we now protest that, animated alike with zeal to avoid the infraction of the Treaty, we have come to this resolution without nevertheless wishing to exceed our duties.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

EL MARQUES DE ESTEVA.

G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Havana, November 28, 1854.

And in compliance with the order of the British Judge, I give this to his Honour at Havana the 1st of December, 1854.

(Signed)

DR. JOSE ANTONIO VALDES.

No. 35.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received January 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 9, 1854.

HAVING seen mention made a short time ago, in the "Gazette," of 95 negroes said to have been seized, it was not stated when, by the local authorities at Nuevitas in this island, I asked Mr. Crawford if he knew anything more of the circumstances of that seizure. He told me that it had been made early in October, and that he knew nothing more about it

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than that the Captain-General had very recently informed him that, a few days ago, a man presented himself to his Excellency, stating that he had been the captain of the vessel which brought these negroes, and requesting his Excellency to interfere on his behalf with his employers, who, he said, had withheld from him his wages. The Captain-General said that he had immediately had the man taken into custody and put in prison for the part which, by his own showing, he had taken in this illegal transaction.

With the assistance of Mr. Dalrymple, I have since obtained further particulars. I find that the man, who is still in prison, was lodged there last Sunday, the 3rd instant. His name is José Beloso; he is a native of Galicia. It is said that he did not inform the Captain-General who were the owners on whose account the expedition was made, but that the person against whom he complained was one named José Plana, the "armador," who refused the wages, as is supposed, because José Beloso was about to take command of another vessel for another person, when his former employer wished to secure to himself his services in a fresh expedition. José Plana is said to have been arrested, and then set at liberty on his having given security for his reappearance.

I have been informed that there are about 30 persons now in prison on charges of having offended the law against Slave Trade, and that amongst them is the individual named José de Rigner, who was on board the "*Venus*," captured and condemned nearly two years ago, as passenger under the name of Don Antonio Gutierrez. This individual has undergone a trial of long duration before the Real Audiencia, and is now sentenced, I understand, to one year's "vigilancia" in the Isle of Pines. All the other persons connected with the "*Venus*" have been liberated long ago.

An order was published in August last for the apprehension of Don José Lopez Rangel, one of the persons accused of having accepted bribes for allowing negroes to be landed from the "*Grey Eagle*" in June last. I have not heard of his having been found.

I am informed that numbers of negroes have been taken off various estates by order of the Captain-General, on the ground of their being recently-introduced Bozals entitled to emancipation.

I have the honour to state that the "Espiègle" arrived here on the 7th instant. I am informed by her commander, Captain Hancock, that he has just come from Isla Mujeres, near the coast of Yucatan, whither he had gone in consequence of a report from Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, that one, if not two cargoes of slaves had recently been brought there from Africa, to be conveyed to this island when a convenient opportunity should occur. Commander Hancock says that he obtained no confirmation of the report, and did not even see a single negro there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 36.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having called the attention of the Mixed Courts to the Articles of General Concha's Decree of November 17, which are at variance with the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Spain.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 37.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 7.)*

My Lord,

Havana, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a return of the only case brought before the Mixed Court at the Havana during the last six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure in No. 37.

RETURN of Case brought before the Mixed Court for adjudication in the half-year beginning the 1st of July and ending the 31st of December, 1854.

Name of Vessel.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of seizure.	Where captured.	Property seized.	Name of Seizer.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number filed before adjudication.	Total Number emancipated.	Foreign, according to the papers.	Tonnage.		Decretal part of Sentence, whether for forfeiture or Restitution.	Whether the property condemned has been sold or converted, and whether any part remains unsold, and in whose hands the proceeds remain.	Remarks.
												Old ad-measurement.	New ad-measurement.			
Grey Eagle	None	Unknown	1854 June 27	Lat. Long. 23° 3' N. 83° 8' W	Vessel fitted as a slaver, with some supply of provisions	Commander Hancock, H.M.S. "Esperanza"	Sentence not given	None	None		185	162 ⁴⁰ ₁₀₀	..	None given. Vessel still before Mixed Court		

No. 38.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 7.)*

My Lord,

Havana, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that no emancipados have been removed hence to Jamaica during the last year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 39.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 7.)*

My Lord,

Havana, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to make my annual report on the Slave Trade in this island, and on various circumstances affecting it.

I inclose such lists as I have been able to collect of the reported arrivals and departures of slavers in different parts of the island during the past year, and also of reported departures during the year 1853.

The number of negroes (8,564) reported in the inclosed list to have been landed in the course of last year, is very large as compared with those in similar reports in many former years, and, if the usual addition of one-third be reckoned to account for the unreported landings, may be stated to be 11,400; a number exceeding that of any year, except the immediate preceding one, for a considerable time past. The proportion, however, of unreported to reported landings, has very probably been, during the last year, much smaller than usual. There has been, since the arrival here of the Marquis de la Pezuela at the end of the year 1853, unusual activity displayed by the Spanish authorities, from the highest to the lowest, in this island; the credit of this is of course due, in a very great measure, to the Captain-General for the time being. In several instances during the past year, as your Lordship is aware, authorities of various grades under the Captain-General, have been by him dismissed and punished for connivance at Slave Trade; and the beneficial influence of the upright conduct of the Captain-General over those persons in authority who would, no doubt, under favourable circumstances, have corruptly connived at the landing of Bozal negroes, has been shown, by the occasional occurrence of a slaver being refused permission to land her cargo on some particular part of the island, where the local authority was afraid of the consequences of a successful landing in his district, though he neglected the duty of taking active measures to effect or bring about the seizure of such vessel and of those in her. Another effect, and one, there is reason to think, of very frequent occurrence is, the occasional seizure by local authorities of a part of a cargo of Bozal negroes, in the hope that the Captain-General may be satisfied with the belief in the seizure of the entire cargo. These facts, resulting from the orders issued and the measures taken by the Supreme Authority of the island for the abolition of Slave Trade, though they prove the existence of the Trade, show the good effect of the exertions of the Captain-General against it, and prove the truth of what has often been asserted, that with him rests the responsibility of its continuance. I am informed that, since the publication of the Edict of the 17th of November last, offering bounty and prize-money for the apprehension of slaves (one of the provisions for the distribution of which however, as reported in my despatch of the 9th ultimo,* appeared objectionable to the Mixed Commission, and gave rise to a letter from it to the Captain-General, who has not yet replied), several persons who have been engaged in Slave Trade have given their opinion that the Trade is, in this part at least of the island, at an end; though in other parts, not so much under the eye

* No. 34.

of the Captain-General, it will probably still continue to be carried on for some time at least.

One proof of the activity with which measures have been taken against the Slave Trade, is conveyed in the largeness of the number of negroes seized and emancipated within the last year. Owing to the constant neglect of the VIth Article of Annex C to the Treaty, I am unable to state precisely what this number is. On the 29th of July, however (as I had the honour to report in my despatch of the 3rd of August last*), the Marquis de la Pezuela informed Mr. Crawford that he had, up to that time, seized 2,592; it is probable that in this number were included the 181 whom I reported in the same despatch to have been seized out of a cargo landed near the Isle of Pines, about a month previously; and I find that, according to the information I have in different ways, and sometimes in round numbers, been able to obtain respecting the particular seizures made up to that time, the number amounts to only 10 short of that stated by the Captain-General. The lowest estimate which I can form of the seizures made of Bozal negroes recently landed in this island since the 29th of July gives the number of 707: this estimate is founded principally upon the facts reported in different despatches which I have had the honour to address to your Lordship since that date, and is all accounted for in the inclosed list of landings. These 707, added to the previously announced number of 2,592, makes the sum total of 3,299, which, as I have shown, is the lowest estimate which I can form of the number of emancipados added within the last year to those previously in existence. By the above-stated calculation, the number of negroes seized by the Cuban authorities last year exceeds that in any former year, as a comparison of it with the statements made by Mr. Crawford and me in our joint report of the 10th October will show.

Some months ago, in my despatches of May 8 and of August 3 of last year,† I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship two announcements, published in the "Gaceta de la Habana," of intended distributions of emancipados, containing lists of the numbers of emancipados to be distributed, and of the persons to whose care they were to be consigned for the time appointed. There have since then been several similar announcements in the official "Gazette," with which I have not thought it necessary to trouble your Lordship as fast as they appeared, considering it sufficient to give you some general account of them on such an occasion as the present. The number of negroes seized, and consequently to be thus distributed, became in a short time so great, and required such frequent attention, that in the beginning of August the Marquis de la Pezuela formally announced that he resigned his office of immediate intervention in the distributions, into the hands of the "Junta Protectora de Emancipados," a committee, it will be remembered, established in the Ordinance of the 1st of January last; the subsequent distributions, however, were made under the approval of the Captain-General. In the first announcement, published August 11th, of an intended distribution under this arrangement, it was stated that there were in deposit for distribution 13 Ladinos, or those who, not being freshly arrived, were supposed to have received an education; and it was stated that there were also for distribution, besides these Ladinos, 466 Bozals, the greater part of whom were divided into three classes of each sex; of the rest, 50 were mentioned as sick, and not intended for immediate distribution, and 16 convalescent who were to be distributed together with those classified; this account gave, it will be seen, of Bozals who were intended for immediate distribution, 416. All these emancipados were to be delivered to persons appointed to receive them, under very different circumstances from those under which emancipados used, down to so late a time as the previous year, to be taken charge of: they could no longer be looked upon in the light in which they appear often to have been considered, that of cheap slaves, nominally consigned to their employers for education for five years, and then for an indefinite time, in many cases exceeding twenty years, treated worse than slaves themselves may be lawfully treated in this country.

* No. 24.

† Nos. 19 and 24.

The new emancipados, who under the regulations of last January have acquired the name of apprentices as belonging to them till the completion of their first five years in this country, were to receive wages, in some measure only nominal, and small when compared with those usually paid to any class of servants here; and the amount of those wages was fixed by the "Junta Protectora," who appointed a fixed scale, according to which, with reference to sex and to the class to which on account of their capabilities the "Junta" might consider him or her to belong, the wages of each apprentice were determined. Though, as is shown in the 1st and 2nd Articles of the above mentioned Regulations, one-fourth of the wages was alienated from the apprentice, the whole had nevertheless to be paid by the person to whom the apprentice was consigned, and the consignment, moreover, was made for only one year at a time, and could not be renewed without the consent of the negro. The large numbers of apprentices consisted of recently landed negroes, mere savages, in the extreme of ignorance, speaking no language but one their intended masters did not understand, and in many cases requiring much medical care, the more especially since, as is well known, the seized negroes are generally the most sickly out of the cargo.

It might reasonably be supposed, and was very evidently the case, that there was much difficulty to get people to take such negroes under such conditions. It was indeed stated in one of the officially published notices that there were yet unsatisfied 506 applicants for various numbers of emancipados, amounting altogether to 7,300; but very probably some at least of these applicants had applied before the issuing of the new regulations. In consequence, perhaps, principally of the difficulty above alluded to, and of the endeavours made, on some persons missing their turns, to get other applicants to take the negroes, the information to be obtained from these notices is altogether too confused to enable one to discover what number of emancipados has been distributed.

The present Captain-General began soon after his arrival in September last, by pursuing his predecessor's system, publishing not only the names but the station or occupation of the consignees, and thereby showing the majority of them to be sugar planters: in his first announcement of an intended distribution, he appended to the list of names a notice, awarding to Don Andres Fonseca, a Captain in the Spanish navy, 20 negroes, in token of his appreciation of his conduct in a seizure which he made of a cargo of Bozals at Cardenas in the year 1851. Latterly the emancipados that had to be disposed of have been distributed amongst charitable institutions, or consigned to poor widows and other persons in distress, including the widow of Don José Antonio Castañeda, a man of low origin, who being the person who with his own hands seized General Narciso Lopez on his invasion of this island in 1851, was for that profusely rewarded by the Government, but was assassinated in a café here a few months ago. The widow of Castañeda was to be required to make payment for each emancipado, according to regulation, while many of the other widows were to make such payment only as the Captain-General might think fit to determine. The last notice which was published of an intended distribution, concluded with the statement that there were remaining only seven emancipados more to be disposed of, who were then sick, and would not be distributed till they recovered.

General Concha has, with the cooperation I believe of the Bishop of Havana, taken some steps towards the erection, on an old coffee estate purchased for the purpose, not very far from Havana, of an asylum or hospital for coloured persons generally; the expenses are to be defrayed out of the Emancipados' Fund, namely, that which is now in the hands of the "Junta Protectora," but was, before the establishment of that committee, in those of the Emancipado Department, in the office of the Secretary of the Government, and which, being derived from the payments made for emancipados by the consignees, has been required to meet the expense of compensation to persons who have been called upon to give up emancipados before the expiration of the term of their consignment, of pecuniary rewards to those who have exerted themselves in the

seizing of Bozals, and of all other disbursements connected with the subject. A detailed account of the receipts and expenditure affecting this fund was published here some months ago in the official "Gazette." The dates of this account extended from the 3rd of December, 1853, the day after the arrival here of the Marquis de la Pezuela, to the 30th of June, 1854; and it appeared therefrom, that at the former date the fund consisted of the sum of \$285 2½ rials, rather more than 50%; and that on the 30th of June last it had increased to \$43,527 6½ rials, or about 8,700%. The office of Head Clerk of the Emancipado Department above mentioned, had been for some years, up to the recent arrival here of General Concha, held by one Don José Savates, who, together with all except three of the members of the Government Secretary's office, was soon after General Concha's arrival removed from his office: his salary when in office was, I am told, about 60 or 70 dollars a month, not much more than 150% a-year—a very insignificant sum in this country; but he lived, I believe, while in the receipt of that small salary, expensively, and on his removal from office bought a sugar estate, for which I am told he paid at once more than 100,000 dollars.

In a letter to the Bishop which was published in the "Gazette" of the 25th of October last, containing General Concha's original proposal for the employment, as above-mentioned, of a part of the Emancipado Fund for the benefit of coloured persons generally, reference is made by his Excellency to the last Article of the Regulations of January last, which provides specially for the employment of as much of the fund as possible in favour of emancipados. He states his opinion that, by applying the money to the benefit of coloured persons generally, he is carrying out the intention with which the Article was framed, and he then asserts his right to employ, in the way proposed, the fund which he says has always been at the disposal of the Captain-General. In the published letter, however, of which I inclose a translation, dated October 31, the destination of the money in question seems to be exclusively to the benefit of the emancipados.

On the 28th ultimo, General Concha issued a new Decree, of which I have the honour to inclose a translation. In a circular dated the 30th of December, which his Excellency has addressed to the principal local authorities of the island, communicating this Decree, which, it will be seen, repeals in part the former Regulations, he states that one of its principal objects has been to increase and ensure the collection of the payments to the Emancipados' Fund, devoted as it is to the public good. He states his opinion that the reforms introduced in this Decree, and especially the extension now to be given to the term of consignments from one year to five, are well calculated to attain that object, and thus contribute not only to the support of the existing charitable institutions, but to the raising of new ones. Emancipados proceeding from future seizures are at once to be forwarded to one or other of those establishments. The fund at present in existence is to be employed in the erecting of the establishment on the coffee estate already mentioned, and to be devoted exclusively to it till its completion; this establishment is to be the grand central one. The principal local authorities to whom this circular is addressed, are called upon to promote all possible improvements in establishments of this kind in their respective jurisdictions, to send the Captain-General detailed reports respecting them, stating what funds are possessed for their support, what improvements they are capable of, and everything else calculated to promote an object of so much interest, it is said, to the inhabitants of this island.

There is one point in this Decree to which I think it my duty to request your Lordship's particular attention; it is the treatment of those negroes who are therein described, in the 1st Article, as emancipados not belonging to the class of apprentices. In 1842 it was arranged, on the proposal of the Captain-General, and with the consent of Her Majesty's Government, that negroes who, having been illegally brought to this island from Africa, were thereupon seized and emancipated by this Government, should then be consigned as emancipados to the care of proper persons, willing to educate them, and should after five years be made

quite free. In the regulations drawn up a year ago, professedly to put an end to the abuses to which this system had led, those lawfully in the condition of "emancipados" were called apprentices ("aprendices"); and others, who ought to have been made quite free, were called "emancipados libertos;" and the treatment provided for the latter was only slightly different from that provided for the apprentices. Some pretext for such treatment for the single year for which they were then engaged might have been afforded by the notoriously neglected education of many of them; but now they are to be consigned as emancipados for three years, and their attaining perfect freedom, such as is enjoyed by those whose rights have in former years been allowed, does not appear to be contemplated; they being continually subjected to a deduction from their earnings for the benefit of the Emancipado Fund.

The great mortality amongst the negroes during the year 1853 has, I am informed, certainly acted as a stimulus to the carrying on of the Slave Trade in the year just expired. On the 10th of October, 1853, I made a statement respecting the number of negroes who were said to have died of cholera and small-pox that year in the jurisdiction of Matanzas. I suspect now that the report on which that statement was founded was an exaggeration; the real number was no doubt very large, as there is in that jurisdiction, as compared with the rest of this island, a large proportion of negroes employed on sugar estates, where the mortality amongst the negroes generally bears a larger proportion than in other places to the population; and, moreover, I believe all the negroes, free as well as slaves, were taken into account in that report. I have since been informed that, from June 1853, the end of the sugar crop season, to the same period in 1854, the number of deaths among the slaves throughout the island was estimated at 16,000, which is about equal to the number altogether of both negroes and Chinese supposed to have been introduced into the island during the same time.

It is difficult to obtain very accurate information as to the numbers of the slave population of this island. In the report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons printed in 1853, it appears that Mr. Kennedy, late Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, stated, in answer to Question 1420, that the slave population in Cuba was reported in 1824 at 250,000 in round numbers; and that in the census of 1846 it was said to be 323,759. Of the various estimates I have obtained on the same subject respecting last year, the latest, and not the highest, was 500,000. This appears much too high. But whatever the real number may be, I understand it to be far from a recognized fact that the agricultural labourers in the island are insufficient in number for the land in cultivation. New lands have of late been cleared for cultivation; but in a great measure at the expense of old lands which have been abandoned, and from which the working gangs for the new lands have been removed. I am told, however, that there has been some increase of cultivated land which it would be difficult to estimate; but that the number of labourers has increased probably in a larger proportion. There has been a good deal of immigration. Of Chinese 1,709 arrived last year. Though, by the existing regulations, speculation in the introduction of Chinese labourers is now open to all persons, instead of being confined as previously to two mercantile houses under contract with the Government, yet no one except Don M. B. Pereda, who was one of those contractors, has introduced any during the last year. The 1,709 were all brought over by him. Negroes are found to be more easy to control than the Chinese, and are generally preferred for that reason, besides the consideration of the possession of property in a slave. A rumour, current for a time last year, of the approach of the abolition of slavery, caused for the time a fall in the price of slaves: the prices of Creole slaves have since risen; but those of Bozals are said to have fallen, without prospect of complete recovery, in consequence of the recent authoritative measures against Slave Trade.

I have the honour to inclose a translation of a new set of Regulations recently issued by the Captain-General for observance until fresh orders shall have been received from Madrid, respecting the registration of, and capitation tax on, slaves. These new Regulations, it will be seen, are

intended to supersede entirely the former Regulations on the same subject.

For many reasons it is not easy to discover many departures of vessels from this island for Slave Trade purposes. No vessel ever leaves this country now, as formerly, avowedly for the coast of Africa, even under the pretence of lawful trade thither. And it is well known that many vessels now which bring negroes to Cuba are dispatched from the United States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

List of Vessels reported to have Sailed in 1853 for Slave Trade.

1853.

- July 11.—American brig "*General Pierce*," having arrived at Havana from Santiago de Cuba, and having been denounced by Her Majesty's Consul at the latter port, sailed in ballast for Penzicola, and afterwards went to coast of Africa.
- November 9.—From Santa Cruz, a vessel which had been a brig under Venezuelan colours, called "*Cotorra*," and changed her rig to schooner before leaving Santa Cruz for Africa.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

List of Vessels reported to have Sailed in 1854 for Slave Trade.

1854.

- February 2.—"*Destino*," alias "*Lindo*," a brig of 549 tons, left Havana for New Orleans February 2. Information to Consul at New Orleans, who, on her arrival there under the name of "*Destino*," considered her, from her build, not intended for her ostensible destination of lawful trading to Barcelona.
- May 10.—Schooner "*Manuela*." D. Manuel Mora, Master, fitted out at Tallapiedra, in the harbour of Havana, denounced by Mr. Crawford, and not afterwards clearly accounted for. Appears to have left before the 10th of June.

Inclosure 3 in No. 39.

LIST of Vessels reported to have Arrived in 1854 with Slaves, on the Coasts of Cuba.

Date of Report.		Number of Slaves.
	Information given to the Captain-General by Mr. Crawford, in a letter dated January 11, 1854, founded upon a report made to Her Majesty's Government by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio Janeiro, respecting a Roman vessel, the " <i>Maria</i> ." She was stated to have been fitted out at the River Plata, in March 1853; to have proceeded thence to the coast of Africa, and to have subsequently landed a cargo of slaves in Cuba. Number of slaves, and time of arrival, which must have been in 1853, not stated.	
January 12, 1854	.. A landing in district of Trinidad.	
	Reported to Captain-General by Mr. Crawford.—Two landings near Sagua, one supposed by Mr. Crawford to have consisted of 700 or 800; two also expected at Caybarien	700
February 5, ..	.. Some cargoes landed in jurisdiction of Trinidad, in latter part of January, whereof there were seen on the estate called Las Cucharas, belonging to Don Mariano Borrel, who was afterwards imprisoned	640

Date of Report.		Number of Slaves.
February 6, 1854 ..	Reported to Captain-General, on authority of Her Majesty's Consul at Cienfuegos, a landing, in jurisdiction of Trinidad of	300
March 7, ..	A fresh cargo supposed to have just landed; the Captain-General having communicated to Mr. Crawford the news of a seizure near Trinidad, in direction of Rio Zarza, of (Lieutenant-Governor of Trinidad arrested.)	600
	A polacca-rigged brig reported to have landed near Punta de Tejas 380 or 400	380
May 10, ..	Landed at Estero de Guasuma, in jurisdiction of Jivara.	650
	Another cargo at or near same place. No particulars reported.	
" ..	Landed at a place between Matanzas and Cardenas ..	400
	Landed in district of Sancti Spiritu	300
	Landed near Cardenas, and stated to have been deposited with some relations of the Licenciado Don José Fresnada in district of Palmillos	600
July 10, ..	Landed from " <i>Grey Eagle</i> ," in jurisdiction of Bahía Honda (205 being seized), more than	500
	Landed in jurisdiction of Trinidad and Sancti Spiritu more than	600
August 3, ..	Brought in between Isle of Pines and mainland, about a month previously (181 seized, and Lieutenant-Governor of district superseded) Other cargoes expected.	410
August 9, ..	Landed from " <i>Julia Mister</i> ," at a place called San Carlos, a sugar estate, not far from Trinidad. Vessel burnt; Captain Linn (American Captain), gone to New York	490
August 19, ..	Apprehended in jurisdiction of Mariel	174
September 1, ..	Seizure in jurisdiction of Guines	144
September 12, ..	Captured at Manimané, in jurisdiction of Bahía Honda ..	103
October 10, ..	Captured on the beach at some place east of Havana, on the north coast, two Spanish war-steamers having been sent thither	73
	At Morillos, jurisdiction of Bahía Honda, in latter part of August, from American schooner " <i>Peerless</i> " (113 seized)	350
	Five Bozals found wrecked on Isle of Pines	5
	From a slave-brig which came through Canal del Rosario, east of Isle of Pines. Several of the crew seized and imprisoned	350
November 9, ..	Landed in jurisdiction of Bahía Honda, from a large brig under Spanish colours, more than*	700
December 9, ..	Landed and seized at Nuevitas	95
		8,564

* See Mr. Crawford's despatch of November 23rd (Class B, No. 531), calling in question the accuracy of this report.

Inclosure 4 in No. 39.

The Captain-General to the President of the Junta for the Protection of Emancipados.

(Translation.)

Office of the Government Secretary.

IN my proposition that the fund produced from emancipados may be destined to the most suitable and useful end by being devoted, as far as possible, to the aid of charitable institutions generally deficient in means for fulfilling with due efficacy their sacred obligations, I have determined that, for the future, there shall be consigned to them a number of the apprentices proceeding from fresh seizures and from expired contracts, for the whole time that they may have to continue to belong to that class until they attain to that of freed emancipados, at which time they may be allowed to continue in the service of the said institutions, paying the fourth part which, from their wages, is appropriated to the General Fund of Emancipados.

In order that this determination may produce the effects which I propose for the benefit of charity, the following rules shall be observed:—

1. This Supreme Government shall make the appointed consignments, bearing in mind the number of emancipados to be disposed of, and the requirements of the charitable institutions, assisting when occasion requires it at the respective charitable Committee meetings, and moreover at the special administrations of the said institutions if they shall require it.

2. The charitable institutions shall not have to pay for the apprentices consigned to them the amount appointed to be exacted for each class from private individual masters.

3. The administrators of the said institutions shall, with the necessary consent of the respective Government Committees, determine the number of emancipados which, out of each consignment, they may have to appoint to the service of the institutions, having it in their power to transfer their charge of the emancipados over and above to trustworthy persons, always provided that they give at least the price appointed for each class, the whole of the proceeds of this transaction being applied to the expenses of the establishment.

4. For these transfers, which can be made only for the time appointed in the Ordinance, the most necessitous estate-owners or agriculturists shall be preferred; but nevertheless there shall not be delivered to one individual a greater number than 10.

5. Charitable institutions which may receive consignments of emancipados, and may be without departments for coloured persons, will incur the obligation of establishing such, making the proper separations, and being careful to give the preference therein to the needy among the said class of emancipados.

In conformity with these regulations, which I communicate to your Honour for the information of your Committee, I reserve to myself the power to make an immediate distribution of the apprentices lately seized, and of those whom the Real Junta de Fomento has to deliver over, and I will, when proper, inform your Honour of the distribution.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, October 31, 1854.

In conformity with my orders of this day's date respecting the consignment of a number of emancipados to the charitable institutions, which orders I communicate to your Honour in another official letter, I have resolved that the 95 or more apprentices proceeding from the last seizure made in Nuevitas be consigned to the charitable institutions of Puerto Principe; that the 36 of the same class who exist unprovided for in Pinar del Rio, be delivered to the Junta Municipal de Caridad which is immediately to be formed in that capital, it being intended to proceed to the establishment of a hospital, which, strange to say, does not exist in the centre of a jurisdiction so extensive and important; and that, of the apprentices which the Real Junta de Fomento is to deliver up, there be consigned 30 to the Real Casa de Beneficencia and Maternidad; a like number to the hospital of San Juan de Dios in this city; and 20 to the Casa de Beneficencia of Trinidad; which I say to your Honour for the information of your Committee, and for its taking effect accordingly, on the understanding that proper orders are circulated among the respective authorities in order that the appointed consignments may take place.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, October 31, 1854.

Inclosure 5 in No. 39.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Government Secretary's Office.

A GREAT number of consignments and contracts of emancipados having to be renewed, and it being very necessary to reform some of the points relating to that important subject, I order that, until Her Majesty's approval is given to the project of a new Ordinance, which for that purpose is submitted to the Supreme Government, the following Regulations be observed:

1. The consignments of emancipado apprentices shall be made for the term of five years. Those of the emancipados who may not belong to this class, shall be made for the term of three years.

2. In return for the benefit which may be derived to the consignees from the labour of the emancipados of the apprenticed class, there shall be paid monthly for each the sum which is stated below:

Up to 8 years of age they shall be consigned gratis; from 8 to 15, 5 dollars males, 3 dollars females; from 15 upwards, 6 dollars males, 4 dollars females.

3. For each emancipado who is consigned, not as an apprentice, there shall be paid monthly eight

dollars in the case of a male, and six in that of a female. Three-fourths of this sum shall be delivered to the emancipado as the monthly wages payable.

4. The payment of the sum which the consignee has to make good to the Government for each emancipado apprentice, and the part which is deducted from those who are not apprentices, shall be made by half-yearly advances.

When the first week of either half-year shall elapse without the payment having been made, proper notice shall be given to the party in arrear, and if payment shall not be made in the next week, he shall be liable to a fine equal to the amount due for the fortnight expired, which likewise he shall pay.

If, notwithstanding this, he shall allow a month to elapse without making the payment, there shall be exacted from him the amount of the wages of the emancipado for that month, and the consignment shall be declared null and void.

5. If an emancipado of either class should become completely unfit for work, the consignee shall have a right to return him, and shall be reimbursed for the entire three months which may not have begun. The Government shall take such information as it may deem necessary, and on consideration of all circumstances, shall resolve what it shall think right.

6. When the death of an emancipado of either class shall occur, the consignee shall be under the obligation of making it known to the local authority within the following twenty-four hours. Whoever shall disobey this order shall incur for that cause alone a fine of 25 dollars.

The local authority shall draw up an official minute, and shall send it to the Government with information of the death, in order that it may be put on record in the minute of the grant.

7. The consignee of emancipados who shall retain them in his hands a longer time than that for which they were consigned to him, shall, for that offence alone, incur a fine of from 100 to 500 dollars, besides other greater punishment which may fall on him according to law in case of forcible detention of their persons.

8. On no account and in no way may emancipados be transferred by the consignees who may obtain them, under pain of the annulment of the transfer and cessation of the grant.

From this prohibition are excepted establishments and persons who may obtain gratuitous consignments of emancipado apprentices, and who shall be permitted to transfer their contracts in favour of a third party, giving notice thereof to the Government itself.

9. If the emancipado shall die or be surrendered before the conclusion of the half-year for which the grantee shall have paid, the latter shall be indemnified by receiving back only the amount of payment for the entire three months which may not yet have begun.

10. That which is directed in the Ordinance already existing respecting emancipados shall stand, in as far as it shall not be superseded by the preceding Regulations.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, December 28, 1854.

In order to carry into effect that which is provided in the Decree of this day, respecting consignments of emancipados, the following directions shall be complied with:

1. The renewal of all the consignments made up to the present time shall be proceeded with, and the accounts shall be settled as to payments already made, and as to those which may be due for the first half of next year.

2. For this purpose all those who shall at the time be holding emancipados consigned to them of either class, shall, in person, or by means of an agent, present at the office of the Secretary of the Supreme Civil Government a petition, stating the names, numbers, and origin of the emancipados, for the extension of their consignments to the five years which the said Decree determines.

3. Accompanying the above-mentioned petition, there shall be the contracts which were made on the delivery of the emancipados, or a statement of the cause of the absence of those contracts.

4. There shall be presented also at the Political Secretary's office all petitions for indemnifications on account of the surrenders of emancipados ordered to be made, or of deaths which may have occurred up to the time.

5. The petitions which are mentioned in the two preceding Articles shall be delivered positively before the end of the month of February of the next ensuing year. Consignees who at that time shall not have complied with this form, will incur the penalty which the said Decree appoints for those who shall retain emancipados after their surrender has been decreed.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, December 28, 1854.

It being absolute necessary that there should be adopted some police arrangements relating to the subject of the emancipados, I order that, until Her Majesty's approval be given to the project of a new Ordinance which for that purpose is transmitted to the Supreme Government, the following Regulations be observed:

1. In the office of the Secretary of the Supreme Civil Government there shall be opened a Register of Emancipados, in which shall be stated their original names and those which are given to them, their age real or apparent, the general and particular marks which they may have, and as much information as can be obtained and may conduce to the certifying of their personal identity.

2. To each emancipado of either class there shall be issued by the Government in the months of January and July of each year, a cedula or certificate, in which may be stated that which appears in the entry respecting him in the Register; and appended to it shall be entered the names and domicile of the persons to whom they (the emancipados) may be consigned, the day, month, and year in which the consignment begins and ends, the wages which have to be paid for each, and the form in which the payment has to be made.

3. These cedulas shall be bound up in volumes, having the leaves numbered and certified, which the Public Treasury shall deliver in exchange for a receipt at the office of the Secretary of the Supreme Civil Government. The cedulas shall be divided in a tally form according to the model annexed, and arranged so that on one half of each leaf a cedula of certificate may be

made out, and the remaining half, drawn up in corresponding form, may be the document proving the issue of the former.

4. It shall be obligatory on the consignees to ask for and obtain the cedula of which this Article treats, for the issuing of each of which they shall pay the sum of half-a-dollar, which they may deduct from the wages of non-apprentice emancipados.

In the case of the loss of the first cedula, a duplicate will be issued.

5. These cedula will serve as certifying documents, and in addition to a passport in respect of those emancipados who may be removed from one part to another of the island; for which purpose the respective consignees must take care that the persons charged with conducting them, or the emancipados themselves, as the case may be, do not undertake the journey without this document.

6. The consignee who shall omit to comply with that which in the 2nd Regulation he is directed to do, will incur a fine of ten dollars for each emancipado who shall be without this document.

This fine shall be inflicted by the authority who shall discover the omission, in the form prescribed for this kind of exaction.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, December 28, 1854.

MODEL OF CEDULA.

Register No.		No.
Proving the Cedula of Certificate		Cedula of Certificate of the Eman-
issued for the Emancipado		cipado
of the class of No.	Articles of the Decree of	of the class of No.
proceeding from	the 28th December, 1854,	proceeding from
consigned to	relative to Cedula of Certi-	consigned to
for the term of years,	ficade. Id.: respecting the	for the term of years,
which end on of	obligation to return the eman-	which end on of
of	cipado, his term of consign-	of
	ment being concluded.	
Sex.....		Sex.....
Age.....		Age.....
Height.....		Height.....
Colour.....		Colour.....
Particular marks		Particular marks
REMARKS.		REMARKS.
		Half-year from
		to of
		Passes with my license to
		[Signature of the Consignee.]
		Price half-a-dollar.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 39.

Circular.

(Translation.)

Government Secretary's Office.

GIVING attention to the present state of the execution of the Royal Decrees of the 22nd of March last, respecting the registration and capitation of slaves, and having heard the deliberate opinion agreed to by the Royal Audiencia Pretorial at this place, I have thought proper to order that, until Her Majesty's Government resolves the question which is proposed to it on this subject, there be carried out only the following orders:

Art. 1. Every slave of either sex shall be provided with a cedula of certificate, which the owner or holder (of the slave) shall obtain in the form which is stated hereafter, and must be renewed in the months of January and July of each year.

Art. 2. The cedula of certificate shall contain all the distinguishing particulars of the slave, and shall serve till the 1st of February and 1st of August in each year respectively.

Art. 3. If the slave change his master within a half-year, or pass into the hands of a different holder, that circumstance shall be mentioned in the certificate by the former possessor.

Art. 4. The cedula of certificate is a sufficient document, wherewith the master or holder, mentioning therein his order and the place to which his slaves are bound, may freely send them to any part or jurisdiction in the island.

If more than 5 slaves should be removed who are destined for field-labour, and domiciled in the country, going all from the same place, and having all the same destination, the owner or holder must further make known to the Supreme Authority of the jurisdiction, the place of residence of the slaves, and also that in the place to which they are bound, if it shall be known.

In either case the cedula must be presented to the local authority at the end of the journey, when it shall happen to be out of the jurisdiction of the authority of the territory to which the slave belongs, in order that he may take knowledge of them and return them (the cedula) with a note of their having been presented.

Art. 5. The slave, or his conductor, when the former departs from the limits of the territory in which he resides, must always take with him the cedula of certificate, and show it to any agent of police who may require it to be exhibited; and the want of that document shall be a sufficient cause for the detention and confinement of the slave.

Art. 6. The owner, if known, shall be informed within two days of the detention and confinement prescribed in the preceding Article; and on his regaining possession of the slave, he must present the cedula of certificate, or account for its absence. When it is not known who is the owner, the detention shall be announced circumstantially, and also the place of the deposit, notice being inserted three successive times, each after an interval of ten days, in the official journal of the Government of the island, and in the private journal or journals of the district in which the arrest may take place.

At all events the slave shall be employed in work from the first moment, and the State or Municipality shall reap the benefit in compensation for expenses, whatever may be the respective proportions between such work and expenses.

Art. 7. After the lapse of three years, without the owner or administrator having claimed the slave detained for want of the cedula of certificate, the slave shall be delivered to a charitable institution.

Art. 8. The cedula of certificate shall be for country or for town. Each of the former shall cost a real fuerte, and each of the latter a dollar. The cedula for the country are for slaves subjected to rural labour at sugar estates, coffee estates, plantations of tobacco, of cotton, of cacao, of indigo lands, breeding farms,* apiaries, and estates or farms requiring labour. Those for town are for all those not comprehended in the preceding enumeration.

Art. 9. Cedula which may be issued for slaves, male or female, under 12 years of age and above 60, and those physically incapacitated for work, shall cost only a real fuerte each, although they may belong to towns. The proof of these circumstances shall be established by the presentation of the certificate of baptism or a medical certificate, according to the case.

Art. 10. The owner or holder of slaves who shall not have provided them with the necessary cedula of certificate in the months of January and July of each year, shall pay a fine of ten dollars for each male or female who may not have the said cedula, and double the sum for each case of recurrence.

Art. 11. These fines shall be imposed and exacted in the form already established for this kind of exaction.

Art. 12. The Commissaries of Police, Constables, and Capitanes Pedaneos, shall issue the cedula of certificate, and shall collect the duties which they cost, after previous presentation of the proper documents, in the case treated of in Article 9.

They shall keep a register of the cedula which they may issue.

They shall deliver into the Royal Treasury, in the months of February and August of each year, the amount of the sums collected.

And they shall make suitable arrangements for ensuring that all the slaves of their respective districts are provided, in the months of January and July, with the proper cedula of certificate.

Art. 13. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall inspect, when they think it necessary, the operation of the issuing of cedula of certificate, and the register-book, proposing to the Governor Captain-General the measures which they may think fitted for the better performance of that service.

Art. 14. There is assigned, and there shall be paid by the Treasury, to the Commissaries and Capitanes de Partido, 4 per cent. on the collection which they may obtain in their respective districts, and to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors 2 per cent. on that derived from all the districts in their jurisdiction.

Art. 15. For the convenient carrying out of Articles 12 and 14, each Commissary or Pedaneo shall have a book with the leaves numbered, which for that purpose shall be delivered to him from the Public Treasury, on obtaining from him a receipt, stating the number of leaves which it contains.

The leaves shall be divided into a tally form, according to Model A, and so arranged that on one half of each leaf may be made out a cedula of certificate, and that the other half, prepared in proper form, may be the document proving the issuing thereof. The said half-leaves shall constitute the register-book of the issuing of cedula. By means of the half-yearly presentation of this book, the Treasury Offices shall make out their balance of accounts with the Commissaries and Capitanes de Partido, settling for them the proper charges and receipts. The settlement being made, the register book shall be properly registered in the said offices, and being transmitted by them to the respective Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, shall be placed on record by the latter, he making an annual report to the Supreme Civil Governor of his department.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, December 19, 1854.

* Since translating this, I have been informed that the Spanish words thus translated, which are "haciendas," "potreros," "sitios," de "crianza," are properly applied each to different descriptions of places for rearing live stock; the first for bulls, &c., the second for pigs, and also horses, and the last description of place is for rearing poultry.

No. 40.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received February 7.)*

My Lord,

Havana, January 4, 1855.

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 24th of November last, desiring me to request the Captain-General to give directions for the regular delivery, in future, to the Mixed Commission, of the half-yearly lists of emancipated negroes referred to in the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, I addressed a letter to his Excellency to that effect, to which a reply was very soon sent.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of my letter, and a translation of the Captain-General's reply.

In this reply, which has, by mistake, been addressed to Mr. Crawford, by whom it was immediately forwarded to me, and of which I lost no time in sending an acknowledgment to the Captain-General, it will be seen that the Captain-General promises to begin to send the returns in question, with due exactness and regularity, as soon as the papers in the Government Secretary's Office are in order.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 40.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Captain-General.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, January 1, 1855.

IN obedience to an instruction which I have this day received from the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I have the honour to refer your Excellency to the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex C to the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain of 1835 for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

Your Excellency will perceive that the two Articles in question provide that, with a view to the Mixed Commission being possessed of certain very full and precise information described in the VIth Article, respecting the negroes who are emancipated under the said Treaty, a general Return, formed of particulars specified in the Vth Article, respecting such negroes, and of any other circumstances likely to contribute to the end in view, is required to be delivered every six months by the Government of this island to the said Mixed Commission.

The delivery of these returns having been for a long time neglected, I have the honour to request, under instruction from Her Majesty's Government, that your Excellency will be pleased to give directions in order that the returns in question may in future be delivered regularly to the Mixed Commission of which I am a member.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 40.

The Captain-General to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Government Secretary's Office.

ON being made acquainted with the communication which your Honour has been pleased to address to me on the 1st instant, in which you remind me of the transmission to the Mixed Court established for the abolition of the Slave Trade of the general Return of the Register of Emancipados, which, in accordance with the Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, ought to be sent thereto every six months, I must state to you that the confusion and disorder in which I have found the papers of this office have prevented me hitherto from carrying out fully what is mentioned; that I am very busily occupied in their arrangement and classification; and that, as soon as I can have them in complete order, I will send the said documents drawn up with due exactness and regularity.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Havana, January 3, 1855.

No. 41.

*Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received March 6.)*

My Lord,

Havana, February 7, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to state that, on the 24th ultimo, a negress of the Lucumi tribe, named Angela, called on me, having been sent by Mr. Crawford, to whom she had gone first.

She stated that she was an emancipada, and that her object was to obtain freedom. She had her papers with her, and her tin ticket bearing her number, 57, as an emancipada. From her papers it appeared that the date of her emancipation was October 25, 1843; that she had been captured by the "Mayor de Plaza Interino" of the city of Matanzas. She was very fully described, and there was no reason to doubt her identity. She had been consigned by General O'Donnell first to a mistress, who, it appeared, on the expiration of five years, delivered her up to the Government, which ought then to have made her absolutely free; but she was then consigned to another mistress, the wife of a Don Ramon Diaz, for a longer time. In January 1854, when she had been more than five years under her last-mentioned mistress, she was, like others of her class, under Señor Pezuela's orders, delivered up to the Government, and was then consigned for one year again to the said wife of Don Ramon Diaz, who from that time paid her wages regularly, amounting to 4½ dollars a-month. Angela said that she had no complaint whatever to make against her mistress, but that, having been informed by her that the term of her last consignment would expire in a few days, the 27th of January, she was very anxious then to be made quite free. She said she had two children, one aged seven years, the other three.

From the record contained in her papers respecting her capture in 1843, she appears to have been one of 93 negroes who were, in the month of October in that year, seized by the local authorities on the beach at Puerto Escondido, a little to the west of Matanzas.

On considering all the circumstances, she having been seized and emancipated by the Cuban authorities, having been dealt with lately in conformity with the published Regulations, and having no complaint to make of the treatment she received from the mistress she was then serving, I sent her back to Mr. Crawford, and wrote to him at the same time, stating my opinion that it was not a case in which either he or I ought to interfere at present with the authorities here. I took for granted that she would, on being delivered up to the Government a few days afterwards, be dealt with in accordance with the recently-published Regulations of the 28th of December last; and I said that I supposed she would then, as an "emancipada liberta" or "no aprendiz," according to the expression used in the 1st Article of those Regulations, be reassigned for three years, receiving wages, as she had done during the past year, and a portion of her nominal wages being paid into the "Fondo de Emancipados;" and I said that I had already written to your Lordship about the apparent injustice of such treatment. For what I wrote to your Lordship upon the last-mentioned subject, I beg to refer you to a part of my despatch of the 1st of January last.* I there referred to the plan proposed and carried out by the Spanish authorities in 1842, of placing emancipados under the care of private individuals for five years, as one that had been consented to by Her Majesty's Government. I wrote that under the conviction that the proposal had been acquiesced in by Her Majesty's Government; but I must observe that, as far as I have been able to discover, there has been, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, only a tacit acquiescence therein, no formal consent to it.

On this subject I beg to request your Lordship's attention to the VIIth Article of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, which seems to me to require that all new measures which may appear necessary for improving the condition of the victims of Slave Trade must, before their adoption,

be agreed to by both the High Contracting Parties to the Treaty. I thought it necessary once before, in my despatch of the 9th of February of last year,* to refer in the same manner to that Article with reference to the establishment of the "Junta Protectora de Emancipados;" and the measure now in question for continuing, for at least three years, the condition of the so-called "emancipados" to persons justly entitled to absolute freedom seems to me, as more directly affecting the condition of the emancipados, more obviously to come under the provision of that Article.

I have to add, with respect to the emancipada Angela, that Mr. Crawford concurred with me in opinion that it was not a case for either his or my interference for the present with the authorities; that he asked her if she wished to leave this island, which she said she did not; and that I have been informed, that on the 3rd instant, she was in deposit under the care of the "Junta Protectora" waiting to be further disposed of as an emancipada.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

* Class A, presented 1854, No. 43.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

No. 42.

*Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
May 9.)*

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
March 27, 1854.*

My Lord,

THE arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Dart" has placed me in possession of the latest information relative to the Slave Trade on the east coast of Africa during the year 1853; and I proceed accordingly to lay my report before your Lordship, although it will amount only to the fact that slaves had been collected in great numbers at the depôts upon the coast, but that Her Majesty's ships had not fallen in with any vessels engaged in the Trade. Her Majesty's ship "Penguin," during a cruise of nine months, only saw two vessels to which any suspicion could attach, both American whalers; Her Majesty's ship "Dart," not one.

This must not, however, I regret to say, be considered as conclusive evidence that the Slave Trade is extinct on this coast. The force employed is so inadequate to the service required, that it can only be by chance that even information can be obtained. That two vessels, who have to watch the coast of Africa from Delagoa Bay to Cape Delgado, and the opposite shores of Madagascar, could act with effect, even if they could obtain information, cannot fairly be expected.

One vessel has been heard of as having taken a cargo of slaves from St. Augustine's Bay. She is said to have got away to the northward of Madagascar, and to have been destined for the Havana.

No cases have been brought before the Court of Vice-Admiralty during the year.

I much regret to state that, from information received by way of Natal, I can have no doubt but that the practice of enslaving natives is prevalent among the Boers in the Transvaal Republic. Some form of apprenticeship is gone through before the authorities; and in mentioning a case of apprenticeship for twenty-five years, only put an end to by the flight of the servant into British territory, my informant added that many such cases occur in those regions. The Boers in the Colony of Natal are mentioned as averse to the practice, and expressed satisfaction when claims for the restoration of an apprentice were disallowed by the magistrate.

Intelligence has lately been received here from Dr. Livingstone, who, in Her Majesty's Commissioner's despatch of February 20, 1852,* was reported as likely to revisit the country to the northward of this Colony. This remarkable man, in his search for a place in which to establish a mission station, has followed the Lecambye to its confluence with the Leebea, in latitude 14° 7' south, whence he returned to Linyanti, the capital of the friendly Chief of the Makalolo, named Sekeletu. From this place he wrote as late as October last, being about to set off for Loanda.

Two Portuguese traders, named Ferra and Porto, had made their appearance in Sekeletu's country, from Bihé, in Benguella, accompanied

* Class A, presented 1852, No. 29.

by some of the Mambari tribe. They wished to buy people, which they were not allowed to do. They showed themselves well disposed towards Dr. Livingstone, who, by the kind forethought of the Chevalier Duprat, had been furnished with letters to any Portuguese he might meet. Senhor Porto offered to take Dr. Livingstone back with him to the Portuguese Settlements; but as the journey would have been to be performed in company with the slaves already collected elsewhere, Dr. Livingstone preferred to attempt the journey alone. Dr. Livingstone does not mention the number of slaves collected, but states that they were chained in gangs of 8.

Leave to trade in slaves had been refused to Portuguese who had, on a former occasion, visited the Barotze, by the Chief Sahturu, whose example was quoted by Sekeletu.

Dr. Livingstone observes that the slaves are required by persons trading in the country, to carry down the produce purchased by them: and has suggested the employment of waggons such as those used in this Colony, which will travel wherever there is any food to be found for the support of oxen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. FRERE, Jun.

No. 43.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 29.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
April 5, 1854.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to the report on Slave Trade, conveyed to your Lordship in my despatch of the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a memorandum of such particulars as I have been able to learn relative to the journey of Dr. Livingstone among the native tribes to the north-west of this Colony, mentioned in that despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. FRERE, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 43.

Memorandum of Dr. Livingstone's Journey to the North-West in 1853.

AFTER leaving Kuruman, in spite of the threats of Piet Scholtz, one of the principal Dutch emigrant Boers, Dr. Livingstone travelled as far as latitude 19° south, where his party was detained by sickness among his people; but one man was able to look after the oxen, while he managed the sick. From Kamakama, he moved on the magnetic meridian to the north-north-west through dense woods, till, in latitude 18° 4' south, he found the country flooded, and was forced to leave his waggons on the bank of the Sanschur river. Here his bushmen deserted, and he proceeded, with the strongest of his men, across the Sanschur on a pontoon, and made for the Chobé river. When he had found this, it cost him much exertion to force his way through the vegetation on the bank; but, having succeeded, he had recourse again to his pontoon, and, after paddling some twenty miles, reached a Makololo village. Here his difficulties were much diminished, for the Chief Sekeletu had heard of his coming, and had sent parties out to meet him. The waggons were brought round to the Chief's town, Linyanti, in latitude 18° 17' 20" south, longitude 23° 50' 8" east; but to reach this place they had to go northward, within a few days' journey of the River Shesheki, to avoid the floods. At Linyanti, the party appears to have stayed till the end of July, when the subsidence of the waters allowed of their proceeding.

In the meantime, Dr. Livingstone learned that the Chief Sekeletu had attained that dignity by the voluntary abdication of his sister Mamochitzani, who, during the first visit of Messrs. Oswell and Livingstone in 1852, had succeeded her father Sebitoāne. She had married, and retired into private life.

An attempt was made by one of the principal men of the tribe to dethrone Sekeletu. For this purpose he had allied himself with a Portuguese trader. This person, who was collecting slaves, aided by an armed party of Mombazi, was brought over the Leeambye by the rebel, who permitted him to build a stockade, and to hoist the Portuguese flag at Katongo, in latitude 15° 16' 33" south, longitude about 23° 35' east, and to buy slaves among the villages of the Bashokolumpo and Barotze, east of the river, over which he had influence.

It had been arranged that the rebel should take the occasion of a meeting of the Chiefs to murder Sekeletu, as a signal for the insurrection of his adherents; but this was providentially prevented by

the circumstance of Dr. Livingstone, who was seated between Sekeletu and the principal conspirator, rising at the same moment with the Chief, though quite unconscious of the threatened danger, and keeping between him and his enemy. On the failure of the plot, some of those concerned took alarm, and gave up their leaders, who were at once executed.

It was next proposed to invest the Portuguese stockade, as it was proved that the trader had aided the rebels; and all the party in the fort would undoubtedly have been starved to death, had not Dr. Livingstone interceded, and obtained permission for the Portuguese to retire in peace with his followers. The stockade, however, was destroyed, and no such building would be allowed in future.

When the floods had abated, Dr. Livingstone set forth up the Leeambye river, escorted by the Chief Sekeletu and about 160 men, in search of some place suitable for the establishment of a missionary station. They travelled in canoes about 30 feet long by 20 inches wide, pulled by six paddles, and made about 50 miles in each day's work of 10 hours. The river was frequently a mile broad, and there were numerous well-wooded islands, but the banks were infested with the "tsetse" (the fly whose bite is so fatal to cattle and horses) until latitude 16° was reached, where this plague disappeared. Here the ridges on the banks opened out to the north-north-east and north-north-west, until they were about 30 miles apart, inclosing the Barotze country, about 100 miles in length. The grasses were most luxuriant, and the valley full of cattle; the villages built on mounds, some natural and some artificial, but none less than 10 feet high, that being the depth to which the valley is flooded. On the ridges were lands never flooded, where there were many trees, and gardens in which the natives cultivate sugar-cane, sweet potatoe, manioc, two sorts of yams, bananas, millet, and Kaffir corn. They were also abundantly supplied with milk and fish.

The capital is called Naliele, and stands in latitude 15° 24' 17" south, longitude 23° 5' 54" east. Here the Chief Sekeletu remained, while Dr. Livingstone went northward. He found the river much resembled what he had already seen of it, and in latitude 14° 38' south the banks were again clothed with trees and infested with the "tsetse." In latitude 14° 18' 30" south, the River Loete* flows into the Leeambye from the west-north-west.

Dr. Livingstone proceeded as far as latitude 14° 10' 15" south, longitude 23° 35' 40" east, where a large river called the Leeaba† flows into the Leeambye from the north-north-west. It is also called the Londa, from a capital town of that name through which it passes, and the Chief of which was reported to Dr. Livingstone as favourable to strangers.

From that point Dr. Livingstone retraced his route to Linyanti, where he appears to have remained till October, at which date he was about to start with the intention of reaching the Portuguese settlement of Loanda, on the west coast, whence he hoped to proceed in the direction of Loanda, and return, down the Leeaba and Leeambye, to the Barotze country, in which he proposed to establish a missionary station on the high ground to the east of Naliele in latitude 15° 24' 17" south, longitude 23° 5' 54" east.

Cape Town, April 5, 1854.

No. 44.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 6.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
July 1, 1854.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that no case has been adjudicated by the Mixed Commission of which I am a member, during the half-year ending June 30, 1854.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. FRERE, Jun.

* Also written "Leoti."

† Also written "Leela," or "Lonta."

LOANDA.

No. 45.)

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, January 13, 1854.

WE have the honour to inclose herewith a return of the only case adjudicated by the British and Portuguese Court of Mixed Commission established in this city during the last half-year.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 45.

RETURN of VESSELS captured on Suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and adjudicated by the Mixed Commission Court at Loanda, from 1st of July to 31st of December, 1853.

Name of Vessel.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured.	Property seized.	Seizor.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total Number emancipated.	Foreign papers according to	Tonnage.		Decretal part of Sentence, whether for- feiture or Restitu- tion.	Whether property condemned has been sold or converted, and whether any part remains unsold, and in whose hands the proceeds remain.	Remarks.
												English.	New ad- ment.			
Agua.....	Portuguese	Antonio A. de Amorino	1853 June 4	Lat. 6° 19' N. Long. 1° 40' E.	Schooner and cargo	H. B. Beresford, Lieu- tenant commanding H.M. brigantine "Spy".	1853 Oct. 6	None	None		105	Old ad- ment.	"	Restored upon arbit- ration		

St. Paul de Loanda, January 13, 1854.

(Signed)

GEO. JACKSON.
EDM. GABRIEL.

No. 46.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Laonda, January 13, 1854.

IN pursuance of the General Instructions, we have the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, a certified return, in translation, of the slaves emancipated and registered by the Mixed Commission Court in this city, up to the end of the year 1853.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 46.

REGISTER of Slaves, natives of Africa, liberated by the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission established in this City of St. Paul de Loanda.

Vessels in which Captured.	Number of Male Slaves found on Board.	Dates of Liberation.	Number of Slaves Liberated.	In the Enjoyment of Complete Liberty.	Dead.	Absconded.	OBSERVATIONS.
Portuguese boat, without name	4	Sentence March 29, 1845	4	..	..	..	Enlisted in the Portuguese Navy.
Portuguese launch, "Fortuna"	20	Sentence March 27, 1848	20	3	3	1	Two enlisted in the Provincial Land Forces, and 12 in charge of the Colonial Government, and placed in the establishment of Public Works.

Slaves liberated in 1845 .. 4
 " in 1848 .. 20

Total number of slaves liberated up to December 31, 1853 .. 24

Liberated slaves deceased in 1851—

Of natural death .. 2

Of violent death .. 1

Liberated slaves absconded .. 2

" in the enjoyment of full liberty .. 2

" existing on December 31, 1853 .. 18

St. Paul de Loanda, December 31, 1853.

(Signed)

GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY, Curator.

No. 47.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 20, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship that we have received information from Commander Crofton, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Alecto," of his having discovered, on the 29th ultimo, a vessel of 195 tons, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, secreted in a place called Pirate's Creek, in the River Congo; and which, it being impossible to do anything towards floating her, and the armed natives making hostile demonstrations, he set fire to.

2. The particulars of this transaction are as follows:

3. The vessel was hauled up in a secluded inlet to avoid molestation; and the natives stated that she had at one time slaves on board, but that, on the arrival of the "Alecto" off Shark's Point, they were disembarked.

Not a soul was found on board, nor any colours or papers by which her nationality, or the port whence she came, could be ascertained; but she was fully equipped for the Slave Trade, having—

1st. Open hatchways and gratings, extending between the fore and main mast.

2nd. Large slave coppers on board.

3rd. Leaguers fitted for the hold of the vessel.

4th. Slave-deck laid entire the length of the vessel.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 48.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 20, 1854.

1. WE are sorry to have to confirm but too surely the statement made in our despatch of the 10th ultimo.*

2. The Governor-General has just received advices from Benguella, in which, after stating that four individuals had disappeared from that place, who, there was little doubt, had embarked on board the two vessels referred to in our despatch of the 17th December last,† and which, it is now fully ascertained, shipped each of them a cargo of slaves, the Governor of that district draws a lamentable picture of the present state of things in those parts.

He says there is every reason to apprehend fresh ventures, and that unless the coast is better guarded, he has not the means of preventing them; that the slave interest has received so great an impulse and encouragement from the recent success which has attended its operations, that he feels assured the traffickers will resume their speculations with increased activity, and that the picking of "urzella," in which the negroes had begun universally to engage, had become so impeded that the launches return from the south with little or no supplies of that article. The consequence, the Governor adds, of all this is, that no payments can be obtained, and that he apprehends ruinous commercial losses, which will not be confined to this province, but which will extend also to the mother country.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

* See Class A, presented 1854, No. 94.

† Ibid., No. 91.

No. 49.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 22, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 25th November last,* transmitting to us, for our information and guidance, copies of correspondence which had passed between your Lordship and Count Lavradio, respecting a license which has been granted by the Portuguese Government to a proprietor at Benguella, named De Souza e Almeida, permitting him, under certain conditions, to convey negroes from Benguella to Prince's Island.

2. In obedience to your Lordship's instructions that we should furnish Her Majesty's Government with any information which we may be able to obtain with regard to Senhor Almeida's proposed undertaking, we have the honour to report that this individual arrived here from Benguella in October last in a brig, said to be his own property, the entry of which is thus announced in the "Boletim;" "Brig Portuguese, 'Sociedade,' 227 tons, Captain L. A. dos Santos; crew 14, from Benguella with produce of the country, and cattle; a mail and two Government despatches; passengers 14; Counsellor J. M. de S. e Almeida, with 10 slaves, &c."

3. This did not fail to attract our attention at the time, but as he continued his voyage in two or three days—before, in fact, the "Boletim" appeared—and as Senhor Almeida was said to be removing definitively from Benguella to St. Thomas and Prince's, for which islands his departure was also announced in the same "Boletim," his being accompanied by that number of slaves appeared to be warranted by the 2nd section of the Vth Article of the Treaty, and not, therefore, to call for any particular notice. Of the license referred to in your Lordship's despatch, we had heard nothing, though, since its receipt, we learn that the Visconde de Pinheiro is apprized of its having been granted.

4. We may, perhaps, have occasion to write further on this subject. In the meantime, we may state the leading facts of this man's history, as it has been related to us. Senhor Almeida, a mulatto, native of St. Thomas's, and originally clerk to a rich merchant at Benguella, married the widow at his death, and having thereby acquired a considerable property, he proceeded first to Rio de Janeiro and thence to Lisbon, where he soon obtained a "Carta de Conselho," and that sort of influence which wealth never fails to command in that capital, together with the second class of the Order of Christo.

5. Among the above fourteen passengers were some artisans and other workmen, whom Senhor Almeida had engaged at Lisbon for manufacturing speculations, which he intends introducing into those islands.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 50.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 4, 1854.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of a correspondence which has passed between your Lordship and Count Lavradio, respecting the proceedings of Commander Wilmot, of Her Majesty's ship "Harlequin," in negotiating Treaties with the King and Chiefs of

* See Class A, presented 1854, No. 74.

Cabinda and of Ambriz in February last, and which, by your Lordship's direction, was transmitted to us, for our information, by Lord Wodehouse in his despatch of the 12th December last.*

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 51.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 4, 1854.

WE have had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 12th January,† conveying to us your approval of our proceedings in the matter of the American barque "*Republic*," and it affords us much gratification to find that the course we thought it incumbent upon us to follow on that occasion has been sanctioned by your Lordship.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 52.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 6, 1854.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 12th January,‡ and it is with no small satisfaction that we learn by it that the renewed representations made by us to this Colonial Government urging the removal of Francisco Antonio Flores from this Colony, in consequence of further evidence which had been obtained showing the connection of that individual with Slave Trade transactions, had been approved by your Lordship; and we have only to regret the failure of those representations, no less than of the other various steps which have been taken, both here and at Lisbon, with a view to that object. That notorious slave trafficker is still here, and we fear as actively engaged as ever in his nefarious pursuits. The only difference that we notice is that he appears to live more retired, and to put himself less prominently forward than he was wont to do.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 53.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

(Extract.)

Loanda, March 6, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 13th January,§ on the subject of the footing on which our official correspondence with the Governor-General of this province should be placed, and informing us that you had been pleased to give further instructions to Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon upon the point in question.

2. Waiting the result of such representations to the Portuguese Government, we beg leave, in the mean time, to express our sincere acknowledgments to your Lordship for the prompt and efficacious attention you have been good enough to give to this business. Whether the

* See Class A, presented 1854, No. 76.

† Ibid., No. 83.

‡ Ibid., No. 84.

§ Ibid., No. 85.

greater frankness and courteousness of demeanour that we have experienced in our intercourse with the Visconde do Pinheiro is attributable to specific instructions from his Government, or only to the more refined and natural politeness of the man, we know not, but it would be doing his Excellency an injustice not to acknowledge that we have ever met from him with the utmost readiness to listen to any observations we might be desirous of submitting to his consideration, and with the most positive assurances of his determination to cooperate, by every means in his power, to put down the Slave Trade, and to ameliorate the condition of slavery in this province, with a view to its eventual abolition.

3. Some of the regulations adopted by his Excellency, and which we have already had the honour of reporting, undoubtedly tend to this end, and deserve to be frankly commended: others, which the Visconde has yet more recently established, with a view to the same object, must, if honestly carried out, be productive of the best effects, particularly a late Ordinance by which the exactions and extortions, and other scandalous abuses which have hitherto been practised by the Portuguese Presidents and Chiefs of Districts in furnishing slaves for the conveyance of goods from the interior will be repressed. His Excellency has directed that the sums thus raised, and which hitherto have gone into the pockets of these chiefs alone, shall now be regularly divided; one moiety to serve, as heretofore, to increase their official salaries; the other, to be transmitted to Loanda and deposited, under very stringent regulations, in the Public Treasury of the Province, out of which to create a fund for the purpose of making roads and bridges, purchasing carts and cattle, and providing other facilities of conveyance by which the employment of slaves as mere pack-horses is eventually to be done away with.

No. 54.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 17, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship that accounts have just been received from St. Thomas, of the seizure, by orders of the Governor of that island, of a small vessel with a cargo estimated at four contos of reis, which was on the point of leaving that island for the Gaboon, with the intention of purchasing slaves, with the proceeds of the same, in the vicinity of the latter place.

2. The crew of this vessel and all parties concerned in the transaction have been apprehended, and the usual proceedings are said to be instituted against them.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 55.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 17, 1854.

WE have this moment been informed of the capture, off the Congo, of an American vessel, on suspicion of Slave Traffic, by the United States' brig of war "Perry," Lieutenant Page commanding.

Of the fact we entertain no doubt, but as yet no further particulars whatever have reached us, but it will, probably, prove to be the same vessel that Her Majesty's ship "Philomel" boarded not long since in the same vicinity, but whose papers were all regular.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 56.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 21, 1854.

1. IT is with great regret that we find ourselves compelled to commence our present annual report with the admission that the Slave Trade has been more active and more successful on this part of the coast, within the last few months, than we had hoped we should ever again have been constrained to represent it.

2. But we fear there is little doubt that both to the south and north of this place, several shipments of slaves have been effected; some of these ventures we have specifically noticed as having actually succeeded to the extent, at least, of embarking their cargoes, while reports of others have been mentioned to us which, though of a less positive character, yet rest on such authority as it is difficult to disbelieve.

3. It is some satisfaction, however, my Lord, to think that those shipments were destined for the Havana, and not for the Brazils, both because we see in that fact an evidence that the efforts for the prevention of the Trade in that Empire have in no way been relaxed, and because we hope that, as well from the nature of the Trade itself, and the great difficulties attending it, as from the preventive measures which the slavers may find in operation on their arrival on the Cuban coast, such speculations cannot long be continued.

4. As regards this place, the arrivals and departures to and from Europe are become yet more frequent, the receipts at the Custom-house progressing in the same ratio, and with the exception of Francisco Antonio Flores, there is no longer, we believe, one mercantile establishment exclusively engaged in Slave Trade; and we have even been assured that so little were the late shipments to the south premeditated, or previously provided for, that the slaves carried off were those engaged in gathering "urzella," and that, consequently, the supply of that article for which the Lisbon traders were waiting in this port has been greatly retarded; this latter circumstance, however, has also been ascribed to native wars in the interior.

5. At the same time it is pretty certain that most of the houses here, with but very few exceptions, employ their funds once more in Slave Trade speculations simultaneously with those of a licit character, though to such an extent and in so partial a manner only as that, if unsuccessful, the failure may not prove overwhelming, and productive, as it very nearly was a few years ago, of the total ruin of the two leading seats of commerce in this province, Loanda and Benguella.

6. Of such a result, in which many Lisbon houses would have been involved, there were at one time the greatest apprehensions, which there is every reason to believe extended to the mother country, but for whose helping hand, held out to it in its greatest need, the commercial ruin of this province was imminent.

7. These apprehensions, however, though for a time abated, have led very generally to a new mode of doing business. Vessels from Lisbon, instead of being consigned to the established mercantile firms, are now mostly intrusted solely to their captains, who dispose of their cargoes as they best can, and so as to realize the produce by the time the ships may be ready to sail with a return cargo for the home market.

8. This practice may indeed be a security against the misapplication of funds, or their diversion to illicit trade; but, as a general rule, must prove a considerable drawback to the ordinary course of commercial proceedings, while the partial revival of Slave Traffic, which we now witness, by again depriving the province of manual labour, still more retards their development. This conviction has undoubtedly gained ground, and is the argument most listened to in favour of the extinction of Slave Trade, to the exclusion of any higher considerations, which unfortunately are allowed little or no weight in a state of society—if society it can be called—where the majority of the inhabitants are looked

upon by the scanty white population as little better than beasts of burden existing only for their good pleasure and profit; a state of things which the total absence of all religious, or even mere moral, education naturally tends to protract.

9. Thus it is, my Lord, that the Slave Trade still retains a partial and lingering existence, with more or less of life and activity, according to the impulse it may receive from without; and, with a view to the future, more even than to the attempts which may be in operation, the utmost vigilance and exertions on the part of the naval forces engaged in its repression are at this moment more than ever necessary. We rejoice, therefore, to hear from Admiral Bruce that there is a prospect of his being able shortly to release one of his steamers "for the slave blockade service."

10. We last year adverted to the attempt to induce colonists to settle in the district Mossamedes, and, as reported at the time, several importations from the Brazils were landed there; but few, however, of the emigrants remained, and on the whole the attempt proved a complete failure. This year a party of twenty was brought out in a Portuguese man-of-war with the same destination from Madeira, but this, on their arrival here, was changed, and they were sent into the interior of the province instead, the district of Golungo Alto, where the greater part of them died, a few survivors returning here only to meet the same fate after much privation and fatigue.

11. The naval occurrences of the year in these parts having been reported by us as they severally arose, it is unnecessary to trouble your Lordship with a recapitulation of them; their most material feature being the reappearance of the United States' flag in Slave Traffic, which the American Commodore who was here in November in the frigate "Constitution," as well as other officers who have since visited this port in command of smaller vessels, expressed their determination to put an end to by every means in their power, acknowledging at the same time how averse the Congress and people of the United States are to fettering in any way commercial speculations, and the difficulty which would always be found in interfering with any American vessel that had no slaves on board, or that was not undeniably and unequivocally equipped for the Traffic,—presumptive proof, such as the existence of planks or mats, or an excess of water or of any article of food on board, being insufficient for the detention of any vessel bearing the United States' flag, provided her papers were regular.

12. Of the French squadron nothing has been seen here beyond a small steamer, which, in the early part of last year, twice anchored in this port from the Gaboon.

13. In the Portuguese squadron no change of vessels has occurred, but it is now under the orders of Captain Rodovalho, who came out last autumn from Lisbon to take the command, and who, having been employed on this coast some years ago in the suppression of the Slave Trade, acquired the reputation of an active and zealous officer.

14. At the same time the government of this province was assumed by the Visconde do Pinheiro, who, as your Lordship has been informed, lost no time after his arrival in making various regulations for bettering the state of the slave population, and restraining the ill-treatment but too frequently practised towards them by their masters.

15. If the Viscount's acts correspond in any degree with his professions and his declarations of abhorrence of Slave Traffic, we may expect that every attempt to engage in it will be vigorously repressed and punished during his administration of this Colony, for he is said to be a man of a very energetic and determined character.

16. He informs us, however, that his stay in this hemisphere is limited, and that he intends shortly to deliver over the government into other hands.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 57.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 22, 1854.

WE have had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of November last,* transmitting to us, for our information, copies of two despatches received by your Lordship from Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, and of one addressed to him by your Lordship, respecting the expulsion of the Brazilian subject Francisco Antonio Flores from Loanda, an account of the Slave Trade transactions in which that individual has so long notoriously been engaged.

Your Lordship, calling our attention to the promise of the Portuguese Government, either to oblige Francisco Antonio Flores to quit Angola, or to punish him, if it should be shown by any act of his that he contributes to the revival of the Slave Trade, instructs us to cause the strictest watch be kept upon his proceedings, in order that Her Majesty's Government may be enabled, when the case arises, to claim the fulfilment of the above promise of the Portuguese Government.

Your Lordship may rest assured that we shall do our utmost to fulfil your instructions in this respect; but we must own that we should despair of obtaining any information which the Portuguese Government would deem sufficient if the documents forwarded by Her Majesty's Legation at Rio de Janeiro should fail to convince them of the truth of the charges so repeatedly brought against this man, containing, as they do, unmistakeable indications, as well of the names of persons as of the localities they are in the habit of resorting to in this vicinity.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 58.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 29.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 23, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 24th ultimo, another shipment of slaves was effected to the south of Benguella.

2. Our informant, Captain Rodovalho, could give no particulars, except that the vessel which carried them off is supposed to be one of those denounced as having sailed from Oporto the close of last year, and that the number embarked is said to have amounted to several hundred.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 59.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 29.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 24, 1854.

1. WE are sorry to have to inform your Lordship that the Portuguese brig of war "Corimba" has been condemned as unseaworthy, and that the schooner "Conde do Tojal" has also been found to be in a very bad condition; and though the defects of this latter vessel have been temporarily repaired, yet, as a cruizer for the suppression of the Traffic, little can be expected of her.

2. The Portuguese squadron on this coast may thus be said to be

* See Class A, presented 1854, No. 75.

reduced to the one brig, the "Serra do Pilar," on board of which the Commandant of the station, Captain Rodovalho, had hoisted his flag from the moment of his assuming the command; but she is now cruising under the orders of another officer, and the Commandant himself is on board a hulk in the harbour.

3. We mention these circumstances that your Lordship may not be surprised at the many successful ventures which are now, we regret to say, carrying on around us.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 60.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 29.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 28, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the United States' brig "Perry" came into this harbour two days ago, and that we have received from Lieutenant Page the following confirmation of the intelligence contained in our despatch of the 17th instant.*

2. On the 10th instant, about noon, the "Perry," being abreast of the Congo, descried a vessel a long distance out at sea, standing in for the land. Lieutenant Page immediately ran up the blue ensign, on seeing which the stranger hoisted American colours. Lieutenant Page then determined not to have the appearance of giving chase, but by the help of his night-glass he never lost sight of the vessel, and manœuvred with so much tact that when morning broke he found himself within a few miles of her. He immediately sent his boats in pursuit, and eventually captured her; the captain declaring that he would not allow any but an American boat to board her, but that seeing they were officers of the United States' navy, he at once acknowledged that he was making for the land to ship a cargo of slaves—from 600 to 800—who were looking out for him. His slave-deck, water, and provisions were all on board. She proved to be a brig, the "*Glamorgan*," of 200 tons, from New York, chartered by a Portuguese now resident in that city, but well known formerly as a slave-merchant on this coast, by name José da Costa Lima Vianna, and consigned to another notorious slave-dealer in the Congo and those parts, named Cunha Reis, also a Portuguese.

3. The "*Glamorgan*" sailed from New York on the 6th October, and landed her cargo in January, partly in the Congo, and partly at Ambriz. The master of her was a native of Bremen, but a naturalized American. The mate was either an American or Englishman by birth, believed to be the latter; and these, with the cook and two of the crew, were dispatched in the prize the following day for New York or Boston.

4. The supercargo was from Lisbon, and we regret to say that Lieutenant Page, who had at first declared to him that he must either be sent prisoner to the United States, or be delivered over to the Portuguese authorities, allowed himself, after the man had chosen the latter alternative, to be overpersuaded by the representations which were made to him at Ambriz, and which were signed by both the American and English Agents residing there, as well as by the Portuguese, and to leave him at liberty at that place.

5. The "*Glamorgan*," as before stated, had been several times visited by Her Majesty's cruisers, and as then, so now, at the moment of capture, her papers—Lieutenant Page declares—were perfectly regular. If she had not been deceived by the manœuvres of the "Perry," she might have escaped with the greatest ease, her sailing qualities being far superior to those of that brig, or probably of any cruiser on the coast.

6. On the person of the supercargo was found a letter with Cunha Reis' signature, telling him of the death of the Queen of Portugal, of the

precise position of the ships of war at the moment of writing, and that then was the time to strike. This letter Lieutenant Page sent to Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," who was then cruising in those parts.

7. Another vessel, also from New York, and under the same suspicious circumstances as attended the proceedings of the "*Glamorgan*," has recently arrived in the Congo, whose papers appear likewise quite in order, but of whose sinister intentions Lieutenant Page was so fully convinced, that on being obliged to repair to this port for water, he left a boat to watch her most carefully, and with strict orders to detain her should she attempt to take any step confirmatory of his suspicions, such as shipping more water, food for negroes, &c.; and the better to effect this he had put himself in communication with Captain Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "*Philomel*," who had just arrived off the Congo as Senior Officer, and had requested his cooperation and the assistance of his force in support of the "Perry's" boat, if necessary; thus showing a disposition to act cordially and in concert with Her Majesty's cruisers, from which the best results, if evinced equally by his brother officers who may succeed him on this station—for he himself expects shortly to be relieved—may fairly be looked for. The vessel in question is a large barque called the "*Milaudon*."

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.

EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 61.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 29.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 30, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship that advices have been received from Benguella, by which it appears that about the middle of this month the Governor of that district, having had information of a projected shipment of slaves to the south of that place, sent off a force to intercept them, which succeeded in capturing 107 negroes, with two clerks, white men, of well known parties at Benguella, who were conducting them to the point of embarkation. It is said that nearly as many more ran off, and escaped into the interior.

2. Letters of a subsequent date have reached this place, which state that one or two canoes, on seeing a Government vessel in pursuit, ran ashore; but that a very considerable number were safely shipped on board a vessel which was hovering about ready to receive them.

3. The consequence of all this is disastrous in the extreme to the province, however a few individual miscreants may be the gainers by it. At this moment some ten or twelve vessels, both at this port and Benguella, but principally at the latter, are prevented sailing on their home voyage, from their inability to obtain payment of their outward cargoes, either in goods or money.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.

EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 62.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 14.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 15, 1854.

1. A DAY or two ago, the Commandant of this station, Captain Rodovalho, informed us that a communication had been received from his Government respecting the expected arrival on this coast of a brig-schooner under Portuguese colours, destined for Slave Traffic.

2. He did not, however, appear to attach great importance to this communication, or rather he seemed to consider that it had reached him too late; but on the 7th instant Her Majesty's Commissioner received the letter from him, of which we have the honour to forward the inclosed translation.

3. Captain Rodovalho sailed two days afterwards, with the intention of returning to this port with as little delay as possible, his presence here as Commandant of the Naval Station being much required. On his return he will doubtless be enabled to give full information respecting the late shipments of slaves to the south, and to determine whether the brig-schooner "*Laura*" of which he speaks is, as he now presumes, the same that, under the denomination of the "*Rosa*," shipped, as we know, a cargo of slaves in the Bay of Limoge, or whether, as we incline rather to believe, it may not have been a sister vessel which also effected a shipment nearly at the same time.

4. On reference to the despatch of Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro to the Earl of Malmesbury, dated the 8th of April, 1852,* your Lordship will find the name of Severino de Avellar given as the intended agent of the new slave-trading company at the Azores, mentioned in that despatch; and there is little doubt that the master of the brig-schooner "*Laura*," now denounced—too late, we fear, for any good purpose—from Lisbon, belongs to the same family.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 62.

Captain Rodovalho to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

On Board Her Most Faithful Majesty's Brig "Serra do Pilar,"
February 7, 1854.

Sir,

THE Governor-General of this Province having communicated to me officially the Portaria which he had received from the Department of Marino and Ultramar, dated 4th October last, in which it is ordered that in consequence of the Portuguese brig schooner "*Laura*," Silveiro Severino de Avellar, master, having, after leaving the port of Angra, in Terceira, for Madeira, for the ostensible purpose of taking colonists to the Brazils, come to the coast of Africa to trade in slaves, every possible means to prevent so scandalous a speculation should be used; on this account, notwithstanding the two Portuguese cruisers which I have at my disposal being away, I am about to proceed to the cruising-ground at Benguella, although I suppose the brig schooner in question is the same which, under the name of "*Rosa*," effected a shipment to the south of Benguella. However, to prevent any possible attempt of a similar nature I think it right not to abandon that point, and shall, therefore, sail for that part of the coast to-day.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO MAXIMO DE SA. RODOVALHO.

* Class B, presented 1853, No. 33.

No. 63.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, July 29, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of March last, reporting the capture of the American brig "*Glamorgan*," off the Congo, by the United States' brig-of-war "*Perry*," on the ground of being engaged in the Slave Trade, I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crampton, Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, reporting that the "*Glamorgan*" had arrived at Boston in charge of a prize crew from the "*Perry*;" and that she had been there condemned as a slaver by the competent tribunal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 64.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Loanda, April 29, 1854.

1. WE beg leave to call your Lordship's serious attention to the contents of this despatch, because, if such acts as we are now to lay before you are tolerated, we will not say sanctioned, by the Portuguese Government, the Treaty of 1842, between Her Majesty the Queen and Her Most Faithful Majesty, is in danger of becoming a mere dead letter.

2. On Wednesday, the 12th instant, Her Majesty's Commissioner received certain information that a transport, the "*Trindade*," belonging to this Colonial Government, commanded by a Lieutenant in the Portuguese navy, and which sailed hence for St. Thomas on the evening of the 8th, had shipped a very considerable number of slaves, stated by some at 40, by others at 60, and upwards.

3. It so happened that this transport, after leaving the port, was drifted back by strong currents, and was actually again abreast of Loanda, on the morning when the above intelligence reached Her Majesty's Commissioner; and Her Majesty's ship "*Linnet*," being then in port, he lost not a moment in making Commander Need acquainted with the circumstance, stating the fact, and leaving it to his judgment to pursue such course as he might think consistent with his general instructions, and with the orders he had received from the senior officer on the station.

4. Captain Need weighed the same evening, with the intention, as he said, of pursuing the "*Trindade*." He returned, however, within the twenty-four hours, saying, that from the winds and currents he had experienced, he had been able to make very little way, and had seen nothing of her, and that he had made a special report to his superior officer on the subject.

5. To this report we must refer your Lordship, as, although in the interview which Her Majesty's Commissioner had with Captain Need on his return, he stated the course he had made up his mind to adopt, in the event of his falling in with the "*Trindade*," it did not appear by any means certain to Sir George Jackson that, upon further consideration, he (Captain Need) felt quite satisfied that he should have been authorized in following it.

6. That course was to have communicated his suspicions to the officer in command of the transport, and in case of their being repelled, accompanied by a refusal to allow of a satisfactory investigation, to have put an officer on board the transport, and to have required her Commander to return to this port, to be delivered over to the authorities.

7. Such, Her Majesty's Commissioner understood Captain Need to say, was the intention in which he left this harbour on the evening of the

12th, and though the former neither felt himself at liberty—nor indeed had the opportunity—to offer an opinion, yet he cannot now allow himself to shrink from the avowal that such was the course which, on imparting the information to Captain Need, he hoped and anticipated that officer would follow, and in which, under the circumstances of the case, he hesitates not to say he thinks he would have been fully justified; for in the first place, it appears very doubtful to him whether a colonial transport, such as the “*Trindade*,” which is not under the orders of the Commandant of the Naval Station, can be considered as a vessel of the “Royal Navy (to use the words of the Treaty) of Portugal.” Secondly, even if that point were decided affirmatively, would she not, he would ask, by an open, flagrant, and unequivocal violation of a solemn Treaty between the two Crowns, have divested herself of that character, and forfeited the privileges appertaining thereto, so far as to subject her to the procedure above indicated, as being the only means of arresting, while in actual progress, the consummation of such violation? And, thirdly, may it not be argued that the procedure here recommended, would not, strictly speaking, have involved the right of search, the exercise of which is what is alone prohibited with respect to a vessel of the Royal Navy.

8. The “*Trindade*” was originally a Brazilian slaver, captured in 1847 by a Portuguese cruiser, within the “*linha de respeito*,” and condemned as a good prize by the Prize Court established here in virtue of the Decree of September 14, 1844.

9. For some years the “*Trindade*” was allowed to remain in this harbour, neither purchased by the Government nor broken up after condemnation, according to the Decree of December 10, 1846, and it was only in the course of last year that the hull of her was appraised at about 300 milreis, and that she was then repaired, manned, and officered, by this provincial Government. She is not, however, provided as the “*Corimba*,” a vessel also originally a slaver, was, with the special instructions authorizing her to visit, &c., vessels suspected of being engaged in Slave Traffic.

10. Her Majesty’s Commissioner trusts it will not be deemed presumptuous in him thus to offer an opinion which, whether erroneous or not, may possibly be considered gratuitous and uncalled for, but he has done so purposely with a view of bringing the question distinctly before your Lordship and the Law Officers of the Crown; because if he should not be borne out in the view he has taken of it, and a colonial vessel, under cover of forming part of the Royal Navy, may resort to such practices, without impediment, it is hard to say where the mischief could be expected to stop.

11. This very same transport, in a trip she made to St. Thomas’s in January last, carried off nearly 100 slaves, which were sold, on their arrival there, at a high premium. This is matter of notoriety; and Her Majesty’s Commissioner, at the same time that he received the information respecting the slaves in the “*Trindade*,” learnt that it was intended to ship a further batch on board another colonial transport, similarly circumstanced, called the “*Esperança*,” on the eve of sailing hence for Lisbon, *viâ* St. Thomas’s.

12. This information was also communicated to Captain Need, though rather in the shape of a report than a positive and certain fact. For a day or two it seemed doubtful, and the Government were said to have prohibited any such further shipment; but eventually Her Majesty’s Commissioner, having reason to believe that it was to be persisted in, proposed to the Portuguese Commissioner to join in a representation on the subject to the President of the Provisional Government—a step which that gentleman declined to take, saying he preferred, as a Portuguese functionary, to address himself singly to the Government. This he accordingly did, as did also Captain Rodvalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station, both calling on the Executive in very energetic terms not to allow so gross an infraction of the Treaty as was said to be in contemplation to be carried into effect.

13. All proved in vain; the members of the Provisional Government, individually and collectively, insisted verbally (for they have taken good

care not to commit themselves in writing on this point) that they fully understood the Treaty, and that what they were about to commit was no violation of it.

14. This was reported to Her Majesty's Commissioner on the 18th; and, finding that the transport was actually to sail that evening with at least 10 slaves, he proposed to his colleague, Her Majesty's Arbitrator, to repair with him *instantly* to the Palace, and urge upon the President of the Government a reconsideration of the resolution which it was understood had been come to.

15. On our admission, his Excellency at once stopped all practical discussion or argument by interrupting Her Majesty's Commissioner, who, with the Treaty in his hand, was about to point out its provisions and requirements, by saying that he had studied and understood the Treaty thoroughly, and that it was, therefore, needless to read it. Much desultory and most unsatisfactory discussion, however, did occur, the purport of which your Lordship will best collect from a perusal of the inclosed note, which, on our return home, we hastened to draw up, and forward while the transport was yet in the harbour.

16. It chanced that that night a heavy storm prevented her going to sea; and the following morning the Commandant of the Naval Station, to whom the officer in command of the transport, also a lieutenant in the navy, had applied for advice, went on board her, and took upon himself to make a register of "every soul" he found in the vessel, and to prohibit the shipment of a single slave beyond the number of 10, whom he erroneously considered, in consequence of the Government's representations and passports, as belonging to a "colono," and as coming, in this way, within the scope of the Treaty. He also cautioned the lieutenant not to allow any launch to go alongside the transport when outside the harbour, as he apprehended an attempt of the kind might be made, so anxious were parties to effect the shipment of their slaves on board this vessel, some of whom, failing in this, relinquished their passage, and remained behind in the city, after they had obtained their passports, making no secret of their reason for so doing.

17. For these steps, not, he said, warranted by his actual sphere of duty, Captain Rodvalho holds himself responsible to his Government, to whom he has written, trusting that the motives which induced them—jealousy for the honour of Portugal and of his country's flag—will be deemed by them a legitimate excuse for his interposing in a matter which concerned the Provincial Government, and not the naval station; and we cannot but express our humble hope that your Lordship's good offices, if necessary, will not be wanting in vindication of so well-intentioned and highminded a proceeding, although it is to be regretted that that interposition, once exercised, should not have been carried still further.

18. In consequence of the application above spoken of from the commanding officer of the transport, Captain Rodvalho reiterated his previous remonstrance in an official letter; but neither to that, to the representation of the Portuguese Commissioner, nor to the note of Her Majesty's Commissioners, has any answer been given.

19. Under these circumstances, and having ascertained every particular respecting the individual who figured as a "settler," and the owner of the 10 slaves he was allowed to ship on board the "*Esperança*," we have thought it right, my Lord, to address a second note to this Government, a copy of which we have the honour to inclose herewith; and if, as we humbly trust they may, these proceedings of ours shall meet with your Lordship's approval, and lead to a disavowal and reprobation on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty, of the acts of the highest authorities of this province, we would respectfully suggest that, to render such a disavowal efficacious, it should be published in the official "*Boletim*" of Angola.*

20. To demonstrate to your Lordship the true nature of these transactions, we have the honour to inclose herewith, the three official "*Boletims*" that report the sailing of the vessels which successively embarked the slaves we have referred to.

21. From the first number your Lordship will see that the "*Trin-*

dade" is reported as having sailed for St. Thomas's and Prince's on the 22nd of January, with forty-seven passengers. From the second, that she is said to have sailed again for those islands on the 8th of April with five passengers. And from the third, that the "*Esperança*" sailed for Lisbon to touch at St. Thomas's and Prince's, with sixty-five passengers, on the 19th instant. In neither of these reports is any mention made either of slaves or of "colonos;" the fact being, that in the first of these three voyages, which occurred during the Government of the Visconde do Pinheiro (as his successor very pointedly reminded us) a number little short of 100 slaves were carried off; most of the passengers figuring as "colonos," and taking, accordingly, each so many, professedly to settle with in the islands; whereas there was not one entitled to be thus considered; so little so, indeed, that some of them had even arrived in the steamer which brought the Visconde to Loanda.

22. In the second voyage, one of these latter, and who during his stay here had been a guest of the Juiz de Direito—the head-piece and *primum mobile* of the present Provisional Government—figured as a settler; and your Lordship will find the names of two other individuals who were also allowed to embark in the "*Trindade*" with their slaves under that same fiction, J. V. de Carvalho and J. B. de C. Azavara, as having arrived from the islands on the return voyage of that vessel from thence on the 15th of March. This will appear from the "*Boletim*" of the 18th March, also annexed; it being pretty certain that they were among the forty-seven passengers reported as having sailed hence in that same transport in January.

23. In the third voyage, that of the "*Esperança*," thanks to the timely interference of Captain Rodovalho, 10 slaves only were taken away, 5 of whom were boys and 5 girls, of from twelve to fifteen years of age.

24. Your Lordship will naturally inquire for what purpose this transfer of slaves to St. Thomas's and Prince's, and what will probably be their ultimate destiny? Whether those who carry them to those islands have in view only the high price which a slave now fetches there; or whether, which is very probable, they hope from thence to find greater facilities for selling them to foreigners, certain and confirmed slavery must equally await them, unless, indeed, it be true, as has been said, that the Governor of those islands had declared that, out of deference to the Visconde do Pinheiro, he had allowed the first shipment in the month of January to disembark, but that he would admit of no further importation of the same nature.

25. To prove, beyond all doubt, the origin of all these malpractices, your Lordship should know, that it having been whispered on the afternoon of the 8th, that a number of slaves were to be embarked, the First Officer of the Treasury applied to the Collector of the Customs, claiming the duties, when the latter replied that he was not aware of any such shipment being to take place, but that he would immediately summon the parties to appear on the morrow, notwithstanding its being Sunday. This intention became promptly known at the Palace, and a Government Aide-de-camp was sent down that very night with a positive order to the officer in command of the "*Trindade*" to put to sea instantly; despite any attempt on the part of any subordinate authority to impede his doing so.

26. Another curious circumstance attending this affair, and which shows how detrimental such practices must be to the best interests of the province, is worthy of notice.

The same adverse currents which, as above stated, drove back the "*Trindade*," caused also, at the same time, the reappearance off this port of Her Majesty's ship "*Atholl*," and of the United States' brig "*Perry*," which had shortly before left it. The three vessels were thus in sight, and close to each other on the 12th. The "*Trindade*" was at once recognized from on shore, and it was immediately supposed she had been detained by a British cruizer; this, as she had a cargo valued at above seven contos on board, caused great alarm, in consequence of which the Treasury officer before alluded to, as well as the merchant who

shipped the cargo, prepared protests against the Government, who, when the intended sailing of the "*Trindade*" was first announced, had advertised that goods would be taken on freight. These protests were only not presented on finding the alarm to be without foundation.

27. Before concluding this despatch (the length of which your Lordship may, perhaps, think to require an apology), we deem it our duty to mention one circumstance, which, however, we are the more reluctant to refer to, because no British cruizer being now in port, we have had no opportunity of verifying the fact; but, as it will assuredly be cast in our teeth in whatever answer may be returned to the representations you may think proper to address to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty on this occasion, it is right that your Lordship should be apprized that it is said here that Her Majesty's ships "*Philomel*," "*Polyphemus*," and "*Atholl*," which were in this harbour on the 8th instant, were lying so near to the "*Trindade*" when she took in the slaves that, occurring as it did in open day, they must have seen what was going on.

28. Her Majesty's Arbitrator, however, considered it very doubtful whether the shipment of the above-mentioned slaves was actually observed by any of Her Majesty's vessels then lying in the port; because, in his opinion, it cannot be expected that the attention of the British cruizers, during their necessarily short stay here, should be directed to vessels leaving the harbour, like the "*Trindade*," under the Portuguese pendant and ensign, and commanded by a Portuguese naval officer.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.

EDMUND GABRIEL.

P.S.—5th May. Since writing the above despatch, Her Majesty's ship "*Polyphemus*" has arrived; and we have much satisfaction in being able to state to your Lordship, with reference to the two last paragraphs of it, that, on speaking to Captain Phillips on that subject, that officer assures us that, having been in this 'port on the day in question, viz. the 8th April, and having left it only the following day, he observed nothing in the proceedings of the "*Trindade*" to excite his attention, and that he had no idea whatever that any cause of suspicion existed as regarded that vessel.

G. J.

E. G.

Inclosure 1 in No. 64.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the President of the Provisional Government.

Loanda, April 18, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Commissioners on the part of Her Britannic Majesty, have already had the honour of explaining to your Excellency the reasons why they did not sooner lay before the Provisional Government, of which your Excellency is President, those considerations which they have this day felt it their bounden duty to submit to you, respecting the projected shipment of slaves from this port to St. Thomas, on board the Government transport "*Esperança*."

The reports on this head were so conflicting, that it was only this morning that the Undersigned became convinced that such an embarkation was about to be carried into effect under the sanction of this Provisional Government, and even then they were willing to allow themselves to hope that the final execution of such a project would yield to the representations which they understood from their colleague the Commissioner on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty—on inviting him to join them in this present remonstrance—it was his intention to make to your Excellency on this subject.

Finding themselves, however, unhappily disappointed in this respect, Her Majesty's Commissioners lost no time in seeking a personal interview with your Excellency, considering that it would be a failure on their part, in one of their most solemn obligations, were they to allow the "*Esperança*" to sail with these slaves on board, without, in the most earnest and explicit manner, drawing your attention, and that of your Excellency's colleagues in the Government, to the provisions of Article V of the Treaty of 1842.

In the course of the conversation which ensued, Her Majesty's Commissioners heard with no less astonishment than regret, the declaration of your Excellency that it was not incumbent on the Government to inquire into and ascertain the truth or falsehood of any petition ("*requerimento*") that might be presented to them; that the individual who was about to embark these slaves on board the

"*Esperança*," represented himself as coming under the provisions of the aforesaid Article; that such representation was sufficient to justify the granting him the required passport; and that, if his representation should prove to be false, he would be liable to punishment; and that, finally, such was your Excellency's understanding, and that of your colleagues, of what was required by the Treaty: the due and faithful execution of which it is mutually the duty of this Government and of the Undersigned to watch over with the utmost vigilance and care.

After such a declaration as this, any further discussion or argument became worse than useless; and all that it was competent for the Undersigned to do under such circumstances, was to declare their conviction—a declaration which they now respectfully, but with all solemnity, repeat—that they consider the projected embarkation of slaves from this port to the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince's, as well as those shipments which have already taken place on board the transport "*Trindade*," a vessel also commanded by an officer of the Royal Navy and belonging to the Provincial Government, as a direct and flagrant contravention of the Treaty of 1842, and as compromising alike the views and intentions of both Crowns, the High Contracting Parties to that Treaty, the interests of legitimate commerce, and the honour and dignity of the national flag of Portugal.

With this deliberate expression of their sentiments, the Undersigned would here close their observations, but for the opinion which your Excellency seemed to entertain that, provided the slaves are to be employed as "colonos," their transference to the limited number of 10 is legal, thus interpreting the word "colono" in the sense of agriculturist, and applying it to the slaves, whereas a closer inspection of the Vth Article must, in the opinion of the Undersigned, convince your Excellency that the term "colono," as there used, refers exclusively to the master of such slaves, and means, as translated in the English version of the Treaty, a "settler;" and further, that the 10 slaves by which, under very specific and stringent conditions, it is permitted to such settler that he may be accompanied, shall be *bonâ fide* household servants ("do serviço de sua casa"); an expression which is repeated in, and runs through each section of the aforesaid Article; the 5th Section thereof making mention even of the sex and age—a proof, if proof could be wanting on such a point, of the intention of the permission granted in the 2nd Section of the Article in question.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. JACKSON.
EDMD. GABRIEL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 64.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the President of the Provisional Government.

Most Excellent and Right Reverend Sir,

Loanda, April 29, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Commissioners on the part of Her Britannic Majesty, having received no answer to the note which they had the honour to address to your Excellency, as President of the Provisional Government, on the 18th instant, in deprecation of an act which appeared to them to involve a direct violation of the Treaty of 1842, and perceiving, moreover, that in the announcement in the official "Boletim" No. 447, of the sailing of the transport "*Esperança*," no mention is made either of the slaves that were allowed to be shipped on board that vessel for St. Thomas nor of the individual who figured as the owner of them; but that, on the contrary, the "*Esperança*" is said therein to have sailed with sixty-five state passengers ("passageiros d'Estado"), think it right to acquaint your Excellency that in the communication it is their duty to make to Her Majesty's Government of the circumstances attending the departure of that vessel, they have distinctly informed them of the shipment of 10 slaves on board of her; and that the individual who had charge of them, Antonio Dias Pinho, so far from fulfilling the requirements of the Vth Article of the Treaty, in order to render such shipment legal, viz., that (without now adverting to the several other indispensable conditions prescribed by that Article) "he should be a Portuguese settler, removing definitively from his residence in a Portuguese possession on the coast of Africa," is not even a Portuguese subject; that he emigrated about three years ago from Brazil to Mossamedes; that, not succeeding there, he came and enlisted in the corps of Sappers and Miners in this garrison, from which he a short time back obtained his discharge, in contemplation of his return to his native country, and that since then, till his sailing in the "*Esperança*," he has been glad to obtain a livelihood by engaging himself to a shopkeeper in this city.

The Undersigned refrain from giving expression to any of those reflections which the above startling revelation must necessarily awaken in their minds; but, whilst it will be for the Government of Her Majesty the Queen to take such notice of it in their communications with that of Her Most Faithful Majesty as they shall deem proper, the Undersigned have felt it incumbent on them not to conceal from your Excellency the nature of the representation which it has been their painful duty to make to Her Majesty's Government on this subject.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. JACKSON.
EDMD. GABRIEL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 64.

Extract from the "Boletim Official" of the Province of Angola, of January 28, 1854.

SAHIDAS. Janeiro 22.—Transporte Portuguez "Trindade," Commandante o Tenente J. J. de Barros, guarn. 10 e 7 cabindas, peças 3; para S. Thomé e Príncipe, com generos do paiz, diferentes officios. Pasg. 47.

Inclosure 4 in No. 64.

Extract from the "Boletim Official" of the Province of Angola, of April 15, 1854.

SAHIDAS. Abril 8.—Transporte da Nação "Trindade," Commandante o Tenente J. J. de Barros, guarn. 7 e 6 cabindas, peças 3; para S. Thomé e Príncipe, com agoardente e diversos generos, 1 mala e 2 officios. Pasg. 5; A. M. Cavalleiro, J. B. da C. Azavara, J. A. d'Oliveira, J. Gregorio, e J. V. de Carvalho, negociantes.

Inclosure 5 in No. 64.

Extract from the "Boletim Official" of the Province of Angola, of April 22, 1854.

SAHIDAS. Abril 19.—Transporte Portuguez "Esperança," Commandante o Tenente J. B. d'Andrade, guarn. 15, peças 2; para Lisboa pelas Ilhas de S. Thomé e Príncipe, com generos do paiz, malas 3 e diferentes officios, e 64 passageiros d'Estado.

Inclosure 6 in No. 64.

Extract from the "Boletim Official" of the Province of Angola, of March 18, 1854.

ENTRADAS. Marco 15.—Transporte Portuguez "Trindade," Commandante o Tenente J. J. de Barros, trip. 9 e 7 cabindas, peças 3; da Ilha de S. Thomé e Príncipe em 16 dias, em lastro e encomendas, 3 malas e diferentes officios. Pasg. 5; A. M. da Cruz, negociante; J. V. de Carvalho, com um escravo; J. B. de C. Azavara, com uma escrava.

No. 65.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Loanda, May 3, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, the translation of a note which we have received from this Government.

2. A communication couched in such terms, we think your Lordship will agree with us in considering as best left without notice; and we hardly know whether it is necessary to advert to the unwillingness imputed to us to reply and attend to the arguments verbally addressed to us, as here stated by the President; the only ground for such imputation being our declaration of the uselessness of all further discussion after what his Excellency had deliberately declared to be his understanding of the Treaty, and of the duties which, as presiding over the Government of this province, it imposed upon him.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 65.

The Secretary-General to the Provisional Government to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

(Translation.)

Secretary-General's Office, May 1, 1854.

THE Most Excellent Provisional Government of this province and its dependencies direct me to acknowledge the receipt of the notes which, under date of the 18th and 29th of April last, you, Gentlemen, addressed to them; and at the same time to say to you that the Provisional Government do not reply to the accusations brought forward in those notes for the following reasons:—

1st. Because the Commissioners in the Mixed Commission on the part of Her Britannic Majesty show, by the aforesaid correspondence, and by the personal interview which they had with his Excellency the President of the Provisional Government, that their sole object is to accuse this Government; but they will neither adduce proofs of their accusations, nor reply and attend to the arguments that the President verbally addressed to them.

2ndly. Because in your note of the 18th of April you commit a sophism, which in logic is called an abuse of words, taking certain expressions which, on the preceding day, you heard fall from the President in a sense very different from that in which he used them; whereas we are taught that it is an incontestable rule of good and sound logic, that words should be received according to the meaning of the person speaking, neither restricting nor amplifying such meaning.

3rdly and lastly. Because the Governor of Angola, or whoever may act as such, is responsible only for his governmental acts to His Most Faithful Majesty, or to his Ministers of State at Lisbon. There it is that the Provisional Government may be accused, reprehended, and punished, for faults committed. But their conscience does not alarm them.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CARLOS POSSOLLO DE SOUZA.

No. 66.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 21.)

My Lord,

Loanda, May 20, 1854.

1. WITH reference to the statement contained in our despatch of the 30th of March last, we have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that a launch taken off Lobito, with 10 slaves on board, by a small vessel belonging to the Government of Benguela, was lately forwarded to this port for trial before the Prize Court established here by the Decree of the 14th of September, 1844.

2. We subjoin herewith a translation of the sentence passed by that tribunal, by which your Lordship will see with pain, that not only is the launch restored to its owner, but that the 10 negroes are reconsigned to slavery, notwithstanding the palpable proof which the fact of their being found in irons afforded of their real destination.

3. The assumed axiom adduced by the judge who drew up the sentence, in support of this lamentable decision, namely, that the end implies and justifies the means, is well worthy of such a cause, but will excite little surprise in your Lordship's mind when you hear that its announcement was coupled with the observation, that if the irons had been found secreted, instead of being on the necks of these unhappy creatures, there might have been some grounds for condemnation; and when, moreover, your Lordship is reminded that this sentence proceeds from the same authority which declared that a penniless foreigner, who had just obtained his discharge from the troops of this garrison, was the owner of 10 slaves, had been a permanent resident in this province in the sense of the Vth Article of the Treaty of 1842, and that as such, namely, a hitherto permanent resident settler removing with his family to another Portuguese possession on the coast of Africa, he was entitled to take them with him, and for this purpose furnished him with the necessary passport to proceed on board a Government vessel to the Islands of St. Thomas and Princes.

4. It is some consolation to us, in making this sad statement to your Lordship, to have to add that, however ineffectual such a protest, the signature of our colleague the Portuguese Commissioner, who is *ex officio* a member of the Prize Court, was not affixed to this sentence but as "overruled."

5. There are two other particulars which might be noticed in this sentence, were it not that their consequence is lost in the issue itself, from which, besides, there is no appeal.

The first is the argument deduced in favour of the absence of all criminality in this transaction from there being little or no food found on board the launch,—a circumstance from which we should be inclined rather to draw a directly contrary inference, namely, that the slaves in question were about to be shipped on board some vessel hovering on the coast.

The second particular is, that the sentence saddles the claimant, whose innocence it in the same breath proclaims, with the payment of all costs and expenses, founding this award on the Xth Article of the Treaty of 1842, which supposes the non-existence of slaves on board; a reference sufficient, it should seem, of itself to vitiate the sentence of restoration.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 66.

Sentence.

(Translation.)

ON an examination of the papers relating to the capture of the launch “26 de Maio,” with 10 slaves, belonging to the citizen José Pedro da Cunha of Novo Redondo, to which is annexed the despatch of the Secretary-General of Government of the 2nd instant, stating the capture of the said launch off Lobito, by a national vessel that had been sent to cruize in those parts by order of the Government of Benguella; as also that of 10 slaves, 5 of whom were chained by the neck, as witnessed by this Tribunal, and the other 5 unconfined. This Court adjudges the said seizure to be a bad prize, and orders both the launch “26 de Maio” and the 10 slaves to be delivered to their owner José Pedro da Cunha, on payment by him of the costs of suit, and all expenses incurred with the said prize; as also the papers of the same, on his giving the necessary receipt for them.

The grounds of this sentence are the following:

1. Because the claimant of the said launch proves that it is his property by the “despacho” of the competent authority, and that the 10 slaves were shipped at Novo Redondo to go to Benguella, he having at the former place given security to take them to their destination, and to present them before the authorities there; and showing the date when the launch sailed for Benguella, by the attestation of the Chief, with which the names of the slaves are found to agree.

2. Because the 5 slaves were in irons for greater security, the crew being composed of 2 Cabinda men and 3 slaves, who might have combined with the other (5) slaves, resisted the Cabindas and escaped; and, forasmuch as the transport of slaves from one point to another is legal—or permitted—the ready and sure means of such transport must certainly be permitted also, by the rule that whoso wills the end must allow the means; and there being no proof that the said launch had on board any quantity of farinha or water, or any food to indicate its destination to any other spot more distant than Benguella, while the way from Lobito to that city is not only direct but very short.

3. Because as to the fact of the capture at the precise point, and under the circumstances mentioned in the despatch from the Government of Benguella, all are agreed; but the captor, ready to forego any profit therefrom, but not to subject himself to the risk of having damages to pay, has not appeared.

For all these reasons, this Court adjudges this seizure to be a bad prize, &c.

(Signed) FAUSTINO CRESPO,
Juiz de Direito (appointed to sum up).
DEMONY (*overruled*).
AUGUSTO GUEDES COUTHÓ. GARRIDO.

No. 67.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1854.

WITH reference to that part of your despatch of the 29th of April, in which you allude to the fact that three of Her Majesty's ships were lying in the harbour of Loanda at the time that an improper embarkation of slaves in Portuguese transports took place there, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, copies of the explanations

on this subject addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty by Commander Phillips, of Her Majesty's ship "Polyphemus," and Lieutenant Pearse, of Her Majesty's ship "Atholl."*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 68.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 4.)

My Lord,

Loanda, May 26, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 2nd and 13th March last,† with their respective inclosures, on the subject, first, of the relations of Her Majesty's Commissioners with this Provincial Government; and secondly, with reference to the expulsion of Flores.

2. On the first of these subjects, nothing has as yet been received direct from Lisbon.

We have only, therefore, for the present, respectfully and thankfully to acknowledge your Lordship's successful efforts in obtaining a concession which, however desirable it may be for the good of Her Majesty's service that we should be possessed of, your Lordship may depend upon our not abusing.

3. With respect to the second point—the expulsion of Flores—we have reason to believe that an intimation of the intention of the Portuguese Government to issue the Portaria directing the Governor of Angola to expel him, reached Viscount Pinheiro before his Excellency's departure, he having furnished that individual with a passport, under his own hand, to leave Loanda whenever he might think proper.

4. In taking this step, we conceive the late Governor to have had two objects in view; the one, consideration for Flores himself; the other, to be enabled to say on his arrival at Lisbon, "So far was I from countenancing this man, and encouraging his residence in Angola, that I was myself instrumental in causing him to leave the Province."

5. Be this as it may, Her Majesty's Commissioner lost no time, on the receipt of your Lordship's despatch on the 21st instant, in seeking an interview with the President of the Provisional Government, to whom he delivered the packet inclosed in that despatch from the Ministerio da Marinha e Ultramar, taking a receipt from his Excellency for the same.

6. We shall, in due course, do ourselves the honour of informing your Lordship of the result. In the meanwhile it is doubly satisfactory to think that this point has at length been yielded to your Lordship's representations; and that the resolution taken by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty—tardy though it be—may yet be in time to put a stop to those Slave Trade transactions in which Flores has persisted to the very last; an assertion which a fresh shipment that he is reported to have effected of a cargo of slaves for the Havana on the 29th ultimo to the north of Ambriz—and of the truth of which we believe there is little doubt—but too fully justifies.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

* Nos. 110 and 111.

† See Class A, presented 1854, Nos. 95 and 96.

No. 69.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord,

Loanda, June 22, 1854.

I HAVE much pleasure in acquainting your Lordship that the Rev. David Livingstone, who set out from the Cape of Good Hope in May 1852 for the purpose of exploring the interior of Southern Africa, arrived at this place on the 31st ultimo, after having, with the most inadequate resources, traversed the interior of this continent between the meridians of 23° and 26° of east longitude, as far as 9° of southern latitude.

Mr. Livingstone sojourned about eight months in the country of the Zambeze, lying in the centre of the continent, between the parallels of 14° and 18° of south latitude, where he appears to have been received in the most amicable manner by Sekeletu, the paramount Chief, and during that time he seems to have laboured diligently in propagating the gospel and attaining a knowledge of the country and its inhabitants. He started from the capital of Sekeletu on the margins of the River Chobé, in latitude 18° 17' south and longitude 23° 49' east, in November 1853, accompanied by twenty-seven of the natives and a sufficient number of oxen for the journey, which he obtained from that Chief. Ascending thence one of the branches of the River Zambeze, which flows through a portion of the Balonda country, he proceeded westward, and entered within the limits of this province at Cassange, in latitude 9° 37' 30" south and longitude 17° 43' east, having experienced considerable obstructions from the native tribes with whom he came in contact as he approached the Portuguese territory. From Cassange he followed a direct course to Loanda, and travelled through some of the most important Portuguese Settlements in the interior of Angola, receiving every facility from the several Portuguese authorities through whose jurisdiction he passed.

The adventures and discoveries of this enterprising and energetic traveller will doubtless be laid before the public in due time, but I hasten to report to your Lordship the interesting fact of his arrival at this place, feeling assured that it will be gratifying to you to hear of the movements of a gentleman who, notwithstanding all the dangers and difficulties which surrounded him in travelling amongst a people who had never seen a European before, and treading on ground the knowledge and true position of which had been hitherto wholly unknown, has, by his own personal exertions and dauntless courage, done so much to enlarge the bounds of geographical science.

I have the honour to inclose herewith a translation of an extract from the official "Boletim" of this province, containing a short announcement of the arrival of Mr. Livingstone.

Mr. Livingstone's health has, I am extremely sorry to say, suffered severely since his arrival at this place, but he seems notwithstanding resolved to proceed on another tour of discovery as soon as the state of his health and other circumstances may permit.

I have read this despatch to Mr. Livingstone, whose illness will prevent him from preparing any report of his movements for transmission to England by the present opportunity. That gentleman requests me to add, for your Lordship's information, that it is with peculiar satisfaction he has learned since his arrival here of the efforts now making by Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Pluto," to open up commercial intercourse with the Chiefs of the Congo, because in the course of his travels he crossed the River Casai, flowing north-north-east and north-east, and the Quango flowing due north, which are reported by the Portuguese traders in the interior, as well as by intelligent natives, after watering an immense extent of well-peopled country, to form, by their junction, the River Zaire or Congo.

Mr. Livingstone is of opinion that if legitimate commerce were once

established in the Congo, there is a high degree of probability that the Slave Trade would be effectually checked throughout the whole extent of that country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 69.

Extract from the "Boletim Official" of the Province of Angola, of June 22, 1854.

(Translation.)

ON the 31st ultimo there arrived in this city the Rev. David Livingstone, English missionary, who set out from the Cape of Good Hope in May 1852, for the purpose of exploring the interior of this continent, and at the same time entering into friendly relations with the native tribes, with a view to the future establishment of missionary stations amongst them.

Mr. Livingstone, after a journey of about eight months from the Cape, and having passed Lake N'Gami to the westward, arrived on the banks of the Zambeze, where, between 14° and 18° of southern latitude, it flows north and south in the centre of the continent. In the country of the Zambeze Mr. Livingstone was received in the most friendly manner by Sekeletu, the paramount Chief; and he remained there about eight months for the purpose of propagating the gospel and acquiring a knowledge of the country and its inhabitants.

Sekeletu, desirous of following up the policy of his father, Sebotoani, to open up commercial intercourse with Europeans, afforded Mr. Livingstone every facility for prosecuting his journey to the sea-coast on the westward. Consequently in November 1853, he started from the capital of Sekeletu, on the River Chobé, and ascended one of the branches of the Zambeze, which flows through a portion of the Balonda country, the lord of which is Mateamor, reported to be the most powerful Chief in the interior of this part of Africa. The inhabitants of this country were disposed to treat Mr. Livingstone in the most friendly manner.

Mr. Livingstone arrived at Cassange in April last, having experienced considerable obstruction from the native tribes with whom he came in contact as he approached the Portuguese territory to the westward; as soon, however, as he entered within the limits of the Province of Angola he received every attention and facility from the several Portuguese authorities in the interior.

Mr. Livingstone takes this opportunity of assuring all those gentlemen of his sincere gratitude for the attention and hospitality he received at their hands.

It is very satisfactory to all, that notwithstanding the unfavourable season of the year, and the continuous heavy rain which Mr. Livingstone experienced during this journey, many astronomical observations were taken, which will enable him to determine with accuracy the position of most of the important points on the route.

As soon as the state of Mr. Livingstone's health will permit, he purposes, with the permission of his Reverence and Excellency the President of the Provisional Government, to offer a few observations and suggestions regarding commercial intercourse with the interior, which may prove beneficial to the inhabitants of this province.

St. Paul de Loanda, June 8, 1854.

No. 70.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, September 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th of April, reporting the shipment of a number of slaves at Loanda, on board a transport belonging to the Government of Angola; and I have to state to you in reply that a shipment of slaves under the circumstances stated in your despatch, is in contravention of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty with Portugal of 1842, and that in a case such as that described by you, Her Majesty's cruisers would be justified in detaining the Colonial transport, even though she carried a pendant, and was commanded by an officer in the Portuguese navy.

In giving this opinion, Her Majesty's Government assume that the transport in question was exclusively a Colonial vessel, and not a transport belonging to the Portuguese Government, only placed for the time at the disposal of the Colonial authorities; and also that the slaves on board did not come within any of the exceptions of the Treaty (especially of Article V), and were legally slaves, and not negroes legally emancipated. And I have to desire that you will furnish me with positive information on these points.

Should it come to your knowledge that any legal defence or pretext exists, on which the Portuguese authorities rely as justifying their proceedings, you will not fail to inform me thereof.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 71.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, September 21, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of May, in which you complain of the acquittal by the Portuguese Prize Court at Loanda, of the launch "26 de Maio," which had been captured with 10 slaves on board; and I have to inform you in reply that there is nothing on the face of the sentence as forwarded by you which shows that it is invalid or erroneous, but that Her Majesty's Government cannot form a positive opinion on the matter until they are in possession of further information respecting it. I have accordingly to desire that you will furnish me with a full and accurate statement of the facts and circumstances respecting the capture of the launch and the proceedings taken against her.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 72.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, June 20, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship of the capture, by Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet," of the barque "Milaudon," mentioned in our despatch of the 28th March last.

2. The United States' brig-of-war "Perry," after visiting the "Milaudon" several times, and in vain attempting to detect any irregularity in her papers, or, indeed, in her proceedings, to warrant more than the strongest suspicions against her, left her at Ambriz in the middle of April, and proceeded hither; Lieutenant Page having previously imparted those suspicions, and every particular respecting this vessel, to Commander Need, who consequently kept the strictest watch upon her movements, following her eventually to Cabinda.

3. Here the "Milaudon," finding the "Linnet" resolute in not losing sight of her, pretended to leave the coast, and stood out to sea; on which Commander Need did the same, but in a contrary direction, as if he had abandoned all further pursuit; leaving, however, his boats close in shore.

The ruse succeeded; the "Milaudon" returned; and on the 30th of April was taken by the "Linnet's" boats, without colours or papers, and with 90 casks of water on board, in the Bay of Cabinda.

She was to have carried off 400 slaves, to which number it was intended to limit the shipment, from a particular wish to take only prime negroes, and land them in the best possible condition; otherwise the "Milaudon," from her size, might have increased it very considerably.

4. We regret, my Lord, to add, that neither the captain nor mate were taken on this occasion, nor any papers or letters seized, and that the only individual, besides the common sailors, belonging to the "Milaudon," who was detained, was the supercargo, supposed to be an Italian, who was immediately dispatched in her for trial to St. Helena.

Two Spaniards, and one Portuguese, who, it is believed, formed part of her crew, have since made their appearance here, and have been put on

board a Portuguese frigate, now in this port, on her way to Lisbon. The captain is said to be at Ambriz.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 73.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, July 3, 1854.

WE have had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd March, 1854, transmitting, for our information, copies of a despatch* and of its inclosures, from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, containing information which Mr. Howard had received from the Brazilian Government and from other sources, respecting the schemes of the slave-traders at Loanda.

2. The names given in these documents are well known in these parts; and we fear there is but too much reason to credit the attempts which have already been made, and are still going on, to carry these schemes into practice. We may not improbably have occasion shortly to revert to this subject more particularly.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 74.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, July 5, 1854.

WE had the honour to inform your Lordship, in a preceding despatch, of the delivery to the President of this Provisional Government on the 24th May last of the packet from the Ministerio da Marinha e Ultramar, inclosed in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th March.

From that time to the 2nd instant there were no arrivals from Lisbon. On that day a mail was received bringing letters to the end of April from the metropolis, and Her Majesty's Commissioner, conceiving that this circumstance afforded a favourable opportunity to obtain an authentic declaration from this Government of the manner in which the Portaria ordering the expulsion of Flores had been carried into effect, waited on the President to inquire whether the original of that Portaria had been received by him.

The Bishop replied that it had not, but that on receiving the duplicate of it, he and his colleagues had at once proceeded to act upon it, and that they had intimated to Flores that he should leave this Province within five months.

On Her Majesty's Commissioner expressing his surprise at hearing that so long a period had been assigned, his Excellency said that Flores had been told in the first instance that he must quit it without delay; but that he had on this applied to be allowed twelve months to wind up his affairs, producing documents to prove the extent of his concerns.

The Bishop said that not trusting to his own statement, the Government had sought for information at the custom-house and in other quarters, from which it appeared that Flores was in expectation of large consignments from different places, and among others from London; that foreign Governments, and the British Government in particular, were

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 162.

very rigid in requiring satisfaction for any losses sustained by its subjects ; that he and his colleagues were unwilling to incur any risk of that kind, and that, therefore, as the Portaria did not fix any positive term, it had been decided, as a middle course, to allow the delay of five months, at the expiration of which his Excellency said, if he were still administering the Government, the order would be peremptorily enforced.

In the course of these observations, his Excellency gave it to be understood that the Provisional Government had not been quite agreed among themselves in this matter, and complained of the inconvenience resulting from a collective Government ; declaring, at the same time, that had it been a question of a Portuguese subject, the Portaria would have received instant execution.

In reply, Her Majesty's Commissioner observed, that it was not for him to express an opinion of the view which the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty might take of such a mode of giving effect to an order which was to receive its execution with " as little delay as possible ;" but that he could not but state his conviction that Her Majesty's Government would be little satisfied with the manner in which a measure announced to them by that of Her Most Faithful Majesty as a proof of its fidelity in fulfilling its engagement for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, had been so abortively carried out.

On his return home, Her Majesty's Commissioner thought it advisable to address, for greater precision, a letter of inquiry to the President of the Government on this subject, to which, as previously settled between them, he received an immediate reply.

We have the honour to inclose herewith translated copies of both these papers.

We have but little to add to them, except it be to remark that the Collector of the Customs, on whose reports the representations of Flores for delay were founded, is one of his most intimate associates, and that it is too notorious to require further proof that that individual has no commercial business whatever, except it be that connected with the Slave Trade ; any little licit trade that he may appear to undertake being merely a cover to the former—a remark which, when made to him by Her Majesty's Commissioner, his Excellency fully assented to.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 74.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the President of the Provisional Government.

Most Excellent and Right Reverend Sir,

Loanda, July 4, 1854.

HAVING had the honour of delivering into your Excellency's hands on the 24th May last a duplicate despatch from the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty, and there having been till now no subsequent arrival from Lisbon, I take the liberty of inquiring of your Excellency, that I may be enabled to report the same to Her Majesty's Government by the steamer which leaves this port to-morrow for England, whether the original of that despatch has been received by your Excellency by the mail which has just reached you ; and, inasmuch as the act to which the aforesaid despatch relates is represented by Viscount d'Athoguia in his note to Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon of the 22nd February last, as one in which Her Britannic Majesty's Government will, without doubt, recognise the lively interest and good faith with which Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government seek to fulfil always the stipulations of the Treaty entered into between Portugal and Great Britain for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, I trust I may, without impropriety, request your Excellency to inform me what decision the Provisional Government has come to in this matter, in order that I may have it in my power to report the same to my Government authentically, and without incurring the risk of being misled by any of the rumours which have been current on this subject during the last month.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. JACKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 74.

The Secretary-General to the Provisional Government to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Secretary-General's Office, July 4, 1854.

THE Provisional Government directs me to inform you, in reply to your letter of this day, that in the execution of what was determined in the Portaria of the Ministry of the Marine of the 14th February last, the Brazilian merchant Francisco Antonio Flores was ordered by the Director of Police on the 7th June, to leave this province within the space of five months, reckoning from the day when that intimation was made to him.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CARLOS POSSOLLO DE SOUZA.

No. 75.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I have called the attention of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the fact that the exportation of slaves from the west coast of Africa has been greatly increased in consequence of the reduced strength of the British squadron on that coast; and have to inform you that their Lordships have stated in reply that the squadron has been reinforced, and that other ships will be sent out from time to time, as the exigencies of the service will permit.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 76.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 20.)

My Lord,

Loanda, September 16, 1854.

WE have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, copies, with their several inclosures, of two letters we have received from Commander Skene of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel."

2. In the first of these, dated the 7th instant, your Lordship will perceive that we are requested to take an early opportunity of urging upon the consideration of the Council of Government the several important points referred to therein. Upon Her Majesty's Commissioner, however, conferring subsequently with Commander Skene on the subject, it was deemed most advisable to wait the receipt of the answer which should be returned by the Provisional Government before making any additional communication to it.

3. No delay occurred in the transmission of this answer, and its tenour precluding any further representation, and Commander Skene having written his letter of the 14th instant, it became unnecessary to give effect to the request he had addressed to Her Majesty's Commissioners on his arrival in this port on the 7th, and the rather as its functions are drawing to a close, the late Governor of Benguella having been appointed Acting Governor of this province, and his arrival being daily expected.

4. It may not, however, be improper here to state that in an incidental conversation which Her Majesty's Commissioner had with the Bishop, between the receipt by him of Commander Skene's first letter and his reply thereto, his Excellency disclaimed all connection with Francisco Franque, observing that he could only say Her Majesty's Naval Officers must act as they thought proper in regard to him.

5. It is but fair, however, to add that the matter on which his Excel-

lency was speaking was evidently one to which he had not given his attention, and eventually the letter, dated the 11th September, was written after informing himself more particularly respecting it.

6. That reply, whether intentionally or from the loose and involved construction of its phraseology, is, as your Lordship will perceive from the translation of it, so obscure that little can be made of it beyond the fact, which was notorious, of this Provincial Government having authorised the issuing of passports by Francisco Franque, and the declaration with which the letter closes, disclaiming all responsibility whatever which may result from these proceedings.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 76.

Commander Skene to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

"Philomel," Loanda, September 7, 1854.

HEREWITH I have the honour to inclose, for your information, the copy of a letter which I addressed on the 30th ultimo to the Council of Government of this Province, reporting the destruction of two launches by Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," under my command in the River Congo, on the 25th and 27th of August respectively.

You will perceive that in this letter I have drawn the attention of the Council of Government to the fact that I have met a great number of launches with papers signed by a person named Francisco Franque, styling himself Governor of Porto Rico, whom the British Government neither knows nor recognizes, and who has no power or authority to sign passports or papers for coasting vessels; that I have no authority to permit boats with papers bearing his signature to pass, nor will I for the future do so, until I receive instructions from the Commander-in-chief to acknowledge him as a representative of the Portuguese Government on this coast.

I have the honour to request that you will take an early opportunity of urging upon the consideration of the Council of Government the several important points referred to in my letter, assuring their Excellencies, at the same time, that all launches or vessels trading in the River Congo, or on other parts of this coast, without the whole of the papers specified in the list which accompanies my letter, and which upon reasonable grounds may be suspected of being engaged in slave-trading pursuits, will be immediately captured by me, and dealt with in accordance with my instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN McD. SKENE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 76.

Commander Skene to the Council of the Provisional Government.

Gentlemen,

"Philomel," off the River Congo, August 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that while lying at the entrance of the River Congo, I descried two large launches, on the 25th and 27th instants respectively, proceeding up the river deeply laden. On their being boarded and searched it was discovered that they had no national colours or papers, and that they had slave cargoes on board, that is, cargoes intended for the equipment of a slave-vessel, reported to be building in the River Congo; therefore, in accordance with instructions received from the English Naval Commander-in-chief, I landed the crews and destroyed both the launches and their cargoes.

I have the honour to inclose a list which I have received from the Commander-in-chief, of the papers and other documents necessary to enable a Portuguese coasting-vessel or launch to trade on the coast; and I beg most respectfully to inform you that all launches trading in the River Congo, or on other parts of the coast, with cargoes suspected of being destined for the Slave Trade, without having these papers, will be captured by me and dealt with in the manner prescribed in the above-mentioned instructions.

I have the honour further to inform you that I have boarded a great many launches with papers signed by a Senhor Francisco Franque, styling himself Governor of Porto Rico; but as the British Government does not recognise any such person or title, and as I have no authority to permit vessels with papers bearing his signature to pass, I will not for the future do so, until I receive contrary instructions from my Commander-in-chief, or until he is acknowledged as a representative of the Portuguese Government on this coast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN McD. SKENE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 76.

Requisite Papers for a Portuguese Coasting-vessel.

A PASSPORT granted by the General Government, to enable coasting-vessels to navigate, which is renewed annually.

A pass from the proper authority on every occasion of leaving a port of the Province.

A crew-list signed by the Secretary-General, and the certificates of admeasurement signed by the Captain of the Port of Loanda, and attested by the Portuguese Naval Commandant or the person discharging his duties.

Inclosure 4 in No. 76.

Commander Skene to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

"Philomel," Loanda, September 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit you a copy of my reply to the Council of the Provisional Government of Loanda in answer to their official letter of the 11th instant, on the subject of launches trading in the River Congo with passports signed by Francisco Franque, called by the Portuguese authorities here "Governor of Porto Rico."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN McD. SKENE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 76.

Commander Skene to the Council of the Provisional Government.

Gentlemen,

"Philomel," Loanda, September 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your official letter of the 11th instant, in reply to mine of the 30th of August last, in which you inform me that Francisco Franque, called by you Governor of Porto Rico, was, in order to facilitate licit commerce, authorised by the Portuguese Government to grant passports to launches trading on this coast.

I have the honour to inform you that the sanction or authority from the Portuguese Government alone to this individual to grant passports cannot have any influence whatever with the British naval officers employed on this coast in suppression of the Slave Trade, unless the authorisation thus given is coupled with that of Great Britain, and unless I receive instructions from my Commander-in-chief that the Governments of Portugal and England act reciprocally and in concert on this head.

Having, therefore, as stated in my letter of the 30th of August last, received no authority to permit launches or other vessels with passports bearing Francisco Franque's signature to pass free, I beg most respectfully to inform you that I cannot and will not for the future do so; that I shall treat him as a native Chief residing out of the Portuguese territories on the west coast of Africa, and all launches with passports bearing his signature will be dealt with by me in the manner prescribed by my instructions under the head of "Boats belonging to native Chiefs."

I beg also to state that the English Commodore in command of the naval forces on this coast is expected to arrive in these waters very shortly, and that the whole of the correspondence on the subject will be laid before him for his decision thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN McD. SKENE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 76.

Commander Skene to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

"Philomel," Loanda, September 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to send you a copy of the translation of a letter I have received from their Excellencies the members of the Provisional Government of Loanda, under date of the 11th instant, being a reply to my letter of the 30th of August last on the subject of launches trading in the Congo with passports signed by a Senhor Francisco Franque, styled by the Portuguese authorities here Governor of Porto Rico.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN McD. SKENE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 76.

The Secretary-General to the Provisional Government to Commander Skene.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Loanda, September 11, 1854.

THE Provisional Government directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th August last, respecting the contents of which it has to observe that, in respect to that part of it relating to the boarding by you of certain Cabinda launches navigated with passports signed by Francisco Franque, Governor of Porto Rico, and which you say you will not allow to pass because the British Government neither recognizes that title nor any such authority, the Portuguese Government does not find itself in the same position, inasmuch as in the year 1847, with a view to facilitate licit commerce between those ports and Loanda, the aforesaid Governor of Porto Rico was authorised to give such passports, which for greater legality were ordered to be printed by the Government press, a practice which has been continued to this time without any opposition.

The Provisional Government, however, cannot but feel that this opposition will have the effect of obstructing commercial licit transactions, and of impeding the establishment of merchants in Portuguese territories, respecting some of which discussions are now going on between the Portuguese and British Cabinets; in consequence of which this General Government declines, on its part, any responsibility whatever that may result from these proceedings.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CARLOS POSSOLLO DE SOUZA.

No. 77.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 20.)

My Lord,

Loanda, September 27, 1854.

1. COMMANDER SKENE, who had put to sea upon the termination of the correspondence transmitted in our preceding despatch, re-entered this port three days ago, and lost no time in informing us of his having detained the English brigantine "*Newport*," on suspicion of her being concerned in the Slave Trade, under the circumstances detailed in his letter of the 24th instant, of which the inclosed is a copy.

2. In compliance with the request contained in the last paragraph thereof, the letter annexed was without delay forwarded to him in reply, and he sailed again with his prize on the 26th, intending to see her well off the land, when, after dispatching her under the charge of a Lieutenant to St. Helena, he purposed proceeding northward, in expectation of falling in with Commodore Adams.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 77.

Commander Skene to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Sir,

"Philomel," Loanda, September 24, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 21st instant, being in latitude 7° 42' south, longitude 12° 48' east, I fell in with and detained the English brigantine "*Newport*," of Jersey, from London, bound to Ambriz, with a general cargo consigned to Senhor Francisco Antonio Flores, a notorious slave-dealer residing at this port of Loanda; and being of opinion that she was concerned in the Slave Trade, inasmuch as she had on board 100 large casks, for which the Master had no special certificate from the Custom-house at the port in England where she cleared outwards, to permit her to carry them, and for which he could render no satisfactory account, in violation of the 5th Article of the 3rd Section of the Instructions for the Suppression of the Slave Trade, I have determined on sending her to the Vice-Admiralty Court at St. Helena for adjudication. I have the honour to request you will be pleased to furnish me, as speedily as possible, with any particulars of the history and character of Senhor Flores, the consignee of this vessel, and, to the best of your ability and knowledge, how far he is and has been implicated in the Slave Trade; and also if you can give me any information respecting a Senhor Garrido, whose name I find among the papers seized on board the "*Newport*" by me.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN McD. SKENE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 77.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to Commander Skene.

Sir,

Loanda, September 25, 1854.

I LOSE no time in acknowledging the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, in which you inform me of your having detained the English brigantine "*Newport*," from London, consigned to Senhor Francisco Antonio Flores, residing in this city, on suspicion of her being concerned in the Slave Trade, and request me to furnish you with any particulars of the history and character of that individual, and how far he is and has been implicated in the Slave Trade.

In reply, I have to inform you that you have most justly characterized Senhor Francisco Antonio Flores as a notorious slave-dealer; in fact, he has never had any commercial business whatever, except it be that connected with Slave Traffic: any little licit trade that he may appear to undertake being merely a cover to the former, and in this course he has most unceasingly persevered to the very last. Within the last few weeks, two shipments of slaves have been made by him to the north of this place.

As further proof of this statement, I inclose you herewith two official documents which I have lately received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. From the one—an extract of a despatch from the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon—you will see the representations which have been addressed both by Her Majesty's Government directly, and by the several British authorities on this coast, naval as well as civil, against the proceedings of Francisco Antonio Flores, and the efforts which have been made to obtain from the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty the expulsion of a foreigner from this Colony, whose career at once set at defiance the laws of both countries, and sacrificed the best interests of this; and from the second—the copy of a Royal Decree which I was myself instructed to deliver into the hands of this Provincial Government—that the remonstrances of Her Majesty's Government have at last had their due effect, and that the individual in question has been ordered to quit this province.

With regard to the other person referred to in your letter, Senhor Augusto Garrido, I have to say that up to the year 1851, when he became a bankrupt, he was hardly less conspicuous as a well-known slave-dealer, although not perhaps so exclusively so as Flores.

Subsequently, just at the time when Her Majesty's Government was made acquainted with the formation of an association at Rio de Janeiro for keeping up the Slave Trade, more immediately with the Havana, and establishing various ramifications for that purpose in Europe, America, and Africa, of which in the latter Flores was the agent, Senhor Garrido sailed for New York, stopping on his way at Ambriz and the northern ports, the results of which expedition soon showed themselves in various shipments of slaves, which were either effected or attempted for the Cuban market. From the time of his reaching America, Senhor Garrido seems to have been very actively employed, passing to and fro from the United States to England, if not to the Havana; and there is little doubt that the several Slave Trade transactions that we have had to lament of late on this coast have been more or less promoted by his agency. So late as the month of February last, the Imperial Government at Rio de Janeiro was actively engaged in counteracting the manœuvres of the before-mentioned Havana association, for which purpose they solicited the cooperation of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEO. JACKSON.

No. 78.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th of September, respecting the detention by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "*Philomel*," of the British vessel "*Newport*," on suspicion of having been concerned in the Slave Trade; and I have to state to you in reply that I approve of your having given to Commander Skene the information which you did, respecting the slave-dealers Flores and Garrido.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 79.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
January 10, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, October 23, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship of the arrival here last week from Benguella, of Major José Rodrigues Coelho do Amaral, who for the last three years has been governing that district, and who was appointed Acting Governor-General of this Province, by a Decree dated 24th January last, confirmed by a Portaria under date of the 21th July, ordering its immediate execution.

2. Without troubling your Lordship with the particulars which are said to have caused the delay in giving effect to the above Decree, we may be allowed to express our regret at a suspension, but for which we should probably not have witnessed those lamentable violations of the Treaty, and that countenance to traffickers and Slave Trade transactions, which it has this year been our painful duty to report: for we have the satisfaction of knowing that this officer, though his mode of administering the government at Benguella has been at times censured as being somewhat imperious, is yet admitted, on all hands, even by those who are the least favourable to him, to be a man on whose probity and incorruptibility every reliance might be placed, and we have every reason to believe, however little he may have been seconded by the local and subordinate authorities, that his efforts to counteract all Slave Trade transactions attempted within his district, have been sincere and energetic.

3. His language bespeaks him to be fully impressed with the importance of for ever putting an end to a Traffic incompatible with the prosperity of the province, and of the Governor-General of Angola being invested, for that purpose, with a power of dealing summarily with offenders against the law in this respect, so as that, instead of having to trust to a prosecution shackled, and too often frustrated, by the delays of ordinary judicial proceedings, he should be authorized, at his discretion and on his own responsibility, to act upon presumptive evidence, in the same manner—to use his Excellency's own words—as is now practised, he believes, in the Brazils, and as he understands to be in contemplation also at Lisbon.

4. In his inaugural address to the inhabitants, he pledges himself to promote to the utmost of his power their legitimate interests, reminding them of those elements of prosperity in which this country abounds, but which they have neglected to turn to account, under the baneful and inhuman influence of the Slave Trade, which has hitherto completely obstructed their development. This is a truth now universally admitted, and happy is it, his Excellency says, for society in general that it is so, both because it would be indeed most unjust that the sordid and rash speculations of some few should prevail over its well-understood interests, and because the number of those incorrigible individuals on whom the salutary rigour of the law will have to fall, will now become considerable. His Excellency concludes with the following observations, the justice and appropriateness of which, leave it only to be desired that such principles as he here lays down, may henceforth be the characteristics of this Provincial Administration, into whatever hands it may eventually pass:—Fitness for the respective duties confided to him, zeal in their discharge, and an inflexible probity, constitute the distinctive qualities in a public servant, and the very circumstance of the several districts and presidencies being less within the immediate reach of the Central Government, renders it doubly important that the administration of them be confided to those who will exercise their trust conscientiously. It is time that the natives of this country should feel the benefit of our dominion. To spread civilization among them, to maintain their property, to see that they infallibly receive a just remuneration for their labour, that strict justice—and at little cost—be administered to them, such are the means of rendering them happy and prosperous. Their right to be thus treated is unquestionable. The Government of His Majesty fully recognises it,

and wills that those invested with its authority should respect that right. Its will shall be obeyed!

5. Your Lordship will, we feel assured, read these sentiments with satisfaction, and if only they be duly acted up to—as we trust there is now a better prospect of their being—we may hope yet to see a brighter day dawn on a country hitherto the victim of cupidity and corruption, but which, if duly administered, would largely repay whatever care was bestowed upon it.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 80.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
January 10, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, October 24, 1854.

1. THE reports respecting the shipments of slaves to the south which have actually been effected of late, have been so various and contradictory, that we have been glad of the opportunity of obtaining from Major Amaral more certain information on the subject.

2. He states, in the first place, that during the first two years of his residence at Benguella, he believes no slaves were transported, and that the number of vessels known to have succeeded in carrying off cargoes of slaves from the coast southward of this port, since last November, may be said to have been five, all destined for the Havana, of which the "*Rosa*" and the "*Laura*" were unquestionably two; the others may have been those denounced in the Portuguese Chambers as having sailed from Oporto, but of this he is not so sure, and we are ourselves inclined rather to think that one of the latter shipped her slaves between this and the Congo.

3. Major Amaral spoke with regret of the result of the proceedings in the case of the launch (reported in our despatch of the 20th May last), the capture of which was owing to his exertions, as also of those had in that of the 107 slaves seized on their road to the coast, which proceedings are now suspended by appeal. The number of these negroes, who are placed in the meantime in a nominal deposit, is decreasing daily, by actual or feigned deaths.

4. The same thing may not improbably occur with regard to those sent from hence to the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince's, who, we learn by the return of the "*Trindade*" from thence, were on their arrival there placed in deposit to await the decision from Lisbon.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 81.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 26, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, November 9, 1854.

WITH reference to the first point mentioned in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th March, already acknowledged in my despatch of the 26th May,* we have the honour to inform you that previously to the late Provisional Government being superseded, Her Majesty's Commissioner received from the President a communication inclosing a copy of the Portaria transmitted to us in your Lordship's above-mentioned despatch, on the subject of the Governor-General's communication with the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on this station, and with Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Sir George Jackson lost no time in acknowledging the receipt of this communication in a letter, a copy of which we have the honour to

inclose herewith, addressed to the Provisional Government, but as the change which has now taken place in this Government was then daily expected, we refrained from again troubling your Lordship on the subject till an opportunity offered of speaking upon it with their successor. This Her Majesty's Commissioner has had occasion to do, and we have the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that Major Amaral has expressed himself anxious to cooperate with us in the most cordial and zealous manner, in whatever might best contribute to the complete extinction of all further attempts at Slave Traffic.

We have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 81.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the President of the Provisional Government.

Most Excellent and Right Reverend Sir,

Loanda, August 9, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive a copy of the Portaria of the "Ministerio da Marinha e Ultramar," No. 2996 of the 14th of February last, which the Provisional Government of this province directed the Secretary-General to forward to me on the 7th instant; and in acknowledging the same, I beg leave to state to your Excellency that the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty may rest assured that, as I have hitherto most scrupulously refrained from communicating with this Provincial Government on any subject whatever except that of Slave Trade transactions, so in using the further liberty of which, by the tenour of the above-mentioned Portaria, I find myself possessed, I shall never think of resorting to it but in conformity with its provisions.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) GEO. JACKSON.

No. 82.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 26, 1855.)

My Lord,

Loanda, October 5, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that the Rev. Mr. Livingstone, whose arrival at this place from the Cape of Good Hope I reported in my letter of the 22nd June last, set out again on the 20th ultimo, to resume his missionary labours, combined with further explorations and researches in the interior of this country.

I am happy to say that Mr. Livingstone, who suffered severely from fatigue and the effects of climate, completely recovered during his residence here; and that he and the small retinue of Africans who had faithfully accompanied him since his outset from the Zambesi, left this place in the most perfect health.

Your Lordship will be gratified to learn that this reverend gentleman was treated with marked and universal courtesy by the Portuguese authorities and inhabitants of this province during his brief sojourn amongst them. His Excellency and Reverence the Bishop and President of the Provisional Government evinced the most lively interest in the objects of Mr. Livingstone's journey, and charged him with a message from the General Government of this province to Sekeletu, the paramount Chief of the Zambesi, accompanied by valuable presents.

The merchants of this city likewise manifested a highly creditable degree of public spirit on the occasion, by addressing a friendly communication to Sekeletu, and forwarding a quantity of trade goods as presents to that Chief. Mr. Livingstone, warmly approving of this desire to promote the prosperity of the Colony by friendly commercial intercourse with the tribes in the interior, cheerfully undertook to be the bearer of these presents, and to communicate faithfully to the Chief Sekeletu, with whose language he is thoroughly versant, the contents of the several despatches which accompanied them.

This enterprising gentleman has now formed the project of traversing the whole of this part of the African Continent; with which view it is his intention, after again penetrating the country as far as the Zambesi, to make an effort to ascend that river by way of Tete and Senna, to Quili-

mane. He was provided by the Government of this province with letters of introduction to the Governor-General of Mozambique and the Governor of Quilimane, and another addressed to all the authorities resident within the limits of the Portuguese possessions on that coast.

It is recorded in this Colony, that about thirty years since a negro arrived from Mozambique, and a small band of Arabs reached Benguela from Zanzibar as recently as 1852; but from the want of intelligence in these people, their journeys have in no degree contributed to our geographical knowledge of the country. And notwithstanding that both sides of the Continent have been in possession of the Portuguese for upwards of three centuries, it appears that no European has ever crossed it, and that the countries in the interior, although presenting a most valuable field for commerce, have remained to the present day as little known as they were when this coast was first discovered.

The immense distance, the climate, and the barbarous and avaricious habits of the natives in some parts, have hitherto been enough to deter any ordinary traveller from undertaking so perilous a journey. Whether Mr. Livingstone should succeed in accomplishing the bold enterprise which he has now undertaken, or not, with him, at all events, rests the merit of having already, under the goodness and protection of Divine providence, been the first to open up this unexplored region to future adventurers in the same path.

I feel assured that Her Majesty's Government will highly appreciate this gentleman's noble and disinterested efforts towards the civilization of Africa. I entertain the opinion, and I state it with deference, my Lord, that the means which he is now so assiduously and so successfully pursuing, viz., opening up roads by which commerce and Christianity may find their way into the heart of the Continent, diffusing some knowledge of our benevolent religion amongst the tribes in the interior, enlightening them in their own nature, propitiating their friendship and goodwill, and, finally, convincing them that it is to their own interest to forego the Traffic in their fellow creatures, afford the surest means of attaining that object which has enlisted the continual efforts of the British Government and nation for so many years—the eradication of the Slave Trade.

As the climate of Quilimane is very unhealthy, and the intercourse, direct or indirect, between that place and Europe is very unfrequent and uncertain, Mr. Livingstone mentioned to me, a few days before his departure hence, that it would be a great satisfaction to him if, through your Lordship's kindness, instructions could be forwarded to the naval Commander-in-chief at the Cape of Good Hope to order any of Her Majesty's cruizers which may be employed off the east coast of Africa, to make occasional inquiries for him at Quilimane, where he hopes to arrive about November of the ensuing year (1855), and, if requisite, to afford him a passage to the nearest place from whence he can reach England. I assured him that I would make his wishes known to your Lordship, and I trust I may be pardoned for the liberty I have taken in so doing.

Should I receive any further intelligence of Mr. Livingstone's progress or movements worthy of being communicated to your Lordship, I will not fail to report it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 83.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29, 1855.)

My Lord,

Loanda, November 8, 1854.

WE have the honour to inclose herewith the joint report of the British and Portuguese Commissioners which the XIth Article of Annex B to the Treaty makes it incumbent upon them to transmit annually to each Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure I in No. 83.

Report of the Mixed Commission for 1853.

My Lord,

St. Paul de Loanda, November 8, 1854.

THE Board of Superintendence being now reconstituted, we avail ourselves of the first vessel sailing for Lisbon to transmit to your Lordship the report which, in conformity with the XIth Article of Annex B to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, it is the duty of this Commission to make annually to each of the respective Governments.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON,
British Commissioner.

GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY,
Portuguese Commissioner.

REPORT of the cases brought for adjudication in the year 1853, before the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established in this city of St. Paul de Loanda, in virtue of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, concluded between Great Britain and Portugal, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, as well as of the state of the liberated negroes and information respecting them, which the aforesaid Commission, in fulfilment of the XIth Article of Annex B to the said Treaty, is to transmit to each of the respective Governments.

1.—*Cases brought before the Commission for adjudication.*

On the 11th August, 1853, the case of the seizure of the Portuguese schooner "*Aguia*," Antonio Alves de Amorim master, by Her Britannic Majesty's brigantine "*Spy*," Lieutenant H. B. Beresford commanding, was submitted to the Court. The "*Aguia*" was from Bahia, and the seizure took place on the 4th June preceding at Aghwey, latitude 6° 12' north, longitude 1° 40', east of Greenwich. The grounds, therefore, were the following:—That her hold was divided into four parts; that the after part had some cases and bags of farinha; that the second contained Indian corn in a greater quantity than was necessary for the use of the crew; that the third had a greater number of mats than was necessary for their use; one or two casks of palm-oil, and one large empty cask, and a great deal of fire-wood; and that the foremost division was almost empty and prepared with mats, as for the reception of slaves; that there was a great quantity of fire-wood, and some hundreds of calabashes on the deck, and that she had had on board a cargo of palm-oil when previously visited which she had discharged, with the exception of one or two casks, besides a cask in a canoe, which was alongside the schooner, and which returned on shore. To this was added a declaration of the captor, that the crew of the "*Aguia*" left the vessel as soon as the boarding officer evinced the intention of sending a part of them to Loanda with the schooner, and of transferring the other part on board of his own ship, leaving those only who accompanied the prize.

On this day (11th August) the Commission appointed a Marshal and an Interpreter, *ad hoc*, for this trial, and administered to the latter the requisite oath, examined the papers of the detained vessel, and ordered the publication of the usual monition, summoning all persons interested in the vessel or her cargo to appear within five days to claim their rights.

The persons belonging to the prize, and who accompanied her hither, viz., the master, one sailor, and two boys, were then examined, and they deposed that there is in the hold a division, viz., the after cabin, and another forward for the sailors; that there are two closets, made out of bits of wood, lined with mats and sacking, one of which reached almost to the main hatchway, and the other in advance of the main hatchway, and that they extend from the bottom of the hold up to the deck, except the foremost one, which only reached half way to receive the Indian corn; that the farinha on board amounted to about nine bushels; that there were about 800 bushels of Indian corn, the cargo of the vessel, contained in the after closet, which was full; that the mats on board were principally fine mats; that the fire-wood was for the purpose of stowage; that at Whydah they took in twenty-eight casks of palm-oil as ballast; that receiving information at Aghwey, by a letter directed to the supercargo, and which was brought by a Sardinian vessel, that palm-oil did not fetch a good price at Bahia, but that Indian corn and beans did, and directing them to take in a cargo of the latter, they sold ten pipes of oil to an English barque, and ten to an American brig, leaving only eight casks of oil on board; that the boards in the hold forward were only a kind of closet to receive the Indian corn, and that there was nothing whatever belonging to it to warrant its being considered as a second deck; that the mats were an object of trade with the Brazils, and that this same vessel had on the preceding voyage carried over fifteen bundles of them, and that the Indian corn was in so great a quantity as to preclude all suspicion, and that the cask which was in the canoe contained Indian corn, towards making up the cargo. As to the escape of the crew, they deposed that they were compelled thereto by the captor himself, adding, that it was proposed to the master to throw the colours and papers overboard, and that they would then land him on any part of the coast he chose, and that the English sailors brandished their swords (cutlasses) to make them run away; that the master always rejected such proposals, and that being on shore to superintend the completion of the cargo (the supercargo being ill), and seeing his flag hauled down and the English flag hoisted, and the canoe which had gone off with the cask of Indian corn return, he had it taken out and went off himself in her to his own vessel, the same canoe afterwards serving to land the greater part of his crew; that in the afternoon of the day when the seizure took place the mate and an apprentice lad were sent away in a boat belonging to the prize on board an English barque which was there, and that the master earnestly endeavoured to prevent his people being sent away from his vessel. Besides this, the depositions above referred to present a series of irregularities and deviations on the part of the captors, of which certified copies were ordered to be made, that each of the Commissioners might acquaint their respective Governments of the same.

The sworn declaration of the prize officer was taken, from which it appears that it was his firm conviction that the crew were not compelled to land, and that he knew nothing of the captor's having told the master of the detained vessel that he should throw the papers and colours overboard; that on the occasion of the mate and apprentice lad going on board the English barque, the captor was not on board, and only himself (the prize officer), and that they took the opportunity of his sending a message

to the barque, to escape to it without either his order or knowledge, a fact of which he became acquainted only after they had put off. That the irregularities of which the party captured complained, if they did occur, were without his permission or knowledge; that it was about half-past 7 in the morning when he first visited the prize on the 4th June. It further appears from his declaration, that the hatchways were close, like those of merchant-vessels; that he saw no Indian corn at all in the foremost division when he visited her; that he did not see what the cask which came in the canoe after the vessel was seized contained, but it appeared to him to be Indian corn, and that he gave no orders for its return on shore; that the fire-wood was not shaped in any particular manner so as that one piece might fit into another, but it was cut of the proper size for fire-wood; that he knew of no order being given to prevent the crew leaving the vessel, or for pursuing them after they had left; that when the commanding officer went on board he demanded the ship's papers, and that the muster roll only was given him, and that it was not until the return of the master that the other papers were delivered up; and that as soon as the commanding officer declared that he should seize the vessel, the crew themselves broke open the trunks which contained cloths of the country, endeavouring to hide them about their persons. He said further, that the sailor who was on board had been already taken in a slave-vessel by the "Cygnet," and that it was not possible for him to say how many negroes could be placed in the foremost division which was left empty.

At the request of the prize officer, the depositions of two English sailors belonging to the crew were taken, from which it appears that the sailor on board the prize had told them that he had been taken two or three times, and on one of these occasions carried to St. Helena; that the calabashes which were on board are precisely of the same kind as those used by the negroes on the coast of Mina to eat and drink out of; that neither force nor threats were practised towards the Portuguese crew to make them quit the vessel, and that in the boat there were no arms whatever except the officers' swords; that they heard no order given to prevent the crew leaving the vessel, nor did they remember any measures taken to prevent their doing so. One of them said that they went of their own accord, carrying with them some small boxes, and leaving others which they were not permitted to take; that he did not see this, however, himself, but was told it by his comrades, as also that, while the English crew were engaged in clearing out the hold, some of the Portuguese took the opportunity to escape.

The proctor for the captor, as also that for the party captured, petitioned for a survey to be held on board the prize, which, being granted, each party named a surveying officer, and the Court a third as umpire; who, having proceeded accordingly to a survey of the vessel, a minute of such survey was afterwards drawn up, from which it appears that the hatchways are close as used in merchant-vessels engaged in licit trade. The surveying officer on the part of the captor, however, stated that some of the hatchways are large in comparison with the size of the vessel; but the surveying officer on the opposite side declared that they were such as are commonly found on board Portuguese ships. In this opinion the umpire concurred, giving as a reason that the greater part of them would not admit a cask being put down crossing from starboard to port; that there were two divisions, the cabin and the other forward for the sailors, and one division made of bits of wood, covered with mats, with a great quantity of Indian corn in grain, and another behind the foremast, from the keel half way up to the beam, and that such divisions were not more than necessary for vessels engaged in lawful trade. The surveying officer for the captured party added that the division in the hold is formed of bits of wood, lined with matting half way up to the beams; that there are some bags of Indian corn there, of which article the other division is full; that there are on board six planks for covering the cabin-floor, and prepared so as to fit into the lockers which go round the cabin, leaving only a small space not filled up. The surveying officer for the captor said that each plank was about eighteen inches wide, but that he could not tell their length, they being of different sizes; to which the surveying officer for the captured party agreed, except as to the width, which he thought was ten or twelve inches Portuguese measure. In this opinion the umpire concurred, giving as a reason that the width of the said planks, which formed the floor of the cabin, could not be wider, being made of pine wood, called "of the country;" there was no water on board, and all the vessels capable of holding liquid would have amounted to about, in all, 1,065 English gallons, including three barrels for salt meat, which, together, might hold 142 gallons; that there were two tubs, which might hold 60 gallons, and a great number of calabashes which serve for eating and drinking out of. This was the declaration of the surveying officer on the part of the captor; but, on the other side, it was affirmed that, properly speaking, there were on board only two cans for the mess, which together might hold 2 gallons; that there was a tub for washing decks, and that, besides that, there might be about 150 pieces of wood, with perhaps 8,000 calabashes. It appeared, by the declaration of the umpire, that there were only two small cans for the mess, which would hold about 1 gallon each, and that he considered that the surveying officer on the part of the captor had, in this respect, confounded it with the tub for washing decks, which exactly gave 35 gallons; that there was no boiler on board, and that the cooking utensils were five, holding altogether 7 gallons, to cook for from ten to fifteen sailors; but the surveying officer for the captor said that the stove might be prepared so as in a short time to be sufficient for whatever number the vessel might carry, producing at the same time a sketch of the stove. The surveying officer for the captured party declared that the stove could only cook for a small number of persons, being of the same make and form as was usual in merchant-vessels, acknowledging at the same time the correctness of the sketch. It appears further that the superficies of the stove measured 720 square inches English, which the surveying officer for the captor said was three times larger than the stove he had in use on board of Her Britannic Majesty's steamer under his command. The surveying officer for the captured party said that, though the stove might have 720 inches of superficies, it could not cook for eighty persons, it wanting all the necessary additions for that purpose, and that it was, as he had already stated, a stove of the size and shape usual in merchant ships, and that he had himself on board his vessel (a Portuguese merchantman) a stove larger than the one in question. It appears further that the stove is iron, and the umpire said that, in its present state, it could only cook for a small number, and that the one in the vessel under his command, which is something larger than that of the "*Aguia*," only cooks for 16 persons. A trifling difference also appears respecting the weight of the fire-wood on board; the surveying officer on the part of the captor saying that there were 3 tons, 19 cwt. 17 lbs. English, and the other party that there were 3 tons, 14 cwt. 3 arrobas, 24 lbs.; both acknowledging, however, that the greater part of such wood was saturated with palm oil and salt water; that there was on board 1,733 measures of Indian corn, or about 800 English bushels and 20 measures, or about $8\frac{1}{2}$ bushels English, of farinha; that there was no rice; that there

were 105 ordinary mats, measuring 2,520 square feet, and 65 finer mats, measuring 1,560 The surveying officer for the captured party declared that the ordinary mats were for the most part cut up for lining the place where the Indian corn was, and that there were barely twelve which were not so used, but that they were much worn and of unequal lengths, on which account he could not measure them exactly. The surveying officer for the captor said that it was true that many of the mats were torn, but that there were enough remaining whole, although of different lengths, which he himself measured and averaged accordingly.

The umpire said he had not measured the mats, as they were of different sizes, and fastened to the sides and bulkheads of the vessel where the Indian corn was stowed, and that they were spread upon the wood to prevent the Indian corn getting damp. He said there were on board 500 gallons of palm oil, in four large and four small casks, and that nothing was found concealed beneath the cargo. The surveying officer for the captor observed that the wood was spread the whole extent of the hold, and that among the water-casks there were three tubs, each strongly bound with iron hoops, such as he never saw but on board slave-vessels or in barracoons; besides which there was a set of coopers' tools. The surveying officer on the other side said that, for his part, he found nothing extraordinary in the state of the vessel and cargo, and that among the casks there were three tubs which appeared to have served for salt meat, two of them being made like those used on board merchant ships, and one made out of a barrel. The surveying officer for the captor, referring to his answer to the query proposed for the survey respecting this stove, said that with the helps he had on board his own ship, it could be prepared in a short time, but that he did not find such helps on board the "*Agua*," and that he saw only the platform of the stove and nothing else. As to the admeasurement, it appears that the "*Agua*" was of 92 tons and $\frac{2}{10}$ English measure, according to the calculation on the part of the captor; and the surveying officer for the captured party said that, calculating according to Portuguese rule, she was 104 tons and $\frac{1}{10}$, because she measures 104 spans (palmas) length, 25 spans and $\frac{1}{10}$ in width, and 13 palmas in height. The umpire observed that this difference in the measurement proceeded from the basis on which the calculation was made being different.

The business of the survey being concluded, the petition of the part of the captor to have the sealed letters which were found on board the prize opened, was taken into consideration; and the proctor on the other side having been heard *contra*, the British Commissioner maintained that this petition ought to be granted, grounding his argument on what is laid down in the regulations, which he said serve as a rule for the Commission, and on the circumstance that the inviolability of the secrecy of letters spoken of in the Constitutional Charter, applies only to letters put into the post-office. The Commissioner on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty was of opinion that the petition ought to be rejected, because by the fundamental law of the State the secrecy of letters is inviolable, besides being a principle recognised by all civilized nations. Lots were then drawn for an arbitrator to decide this difference of opinion, and the lot falling on the Arbitrator of Her Most Faithful Majesty, he decided that the said petition should be rejected.

Publication of the proceedings was then ordered, giving to each party three days, the captor's proctor first receiving them, who, in support of the seizure, said that at Bahia there are still many slave-traffickers who set at defiance the laws of all nations; that the owner of this vessel was a noted slave-dealer at Bahia; that he had already had ships condemned for being engaged in Slave Traffic; that the vessel had touched at different ports on the coast of Mina, where there are many slave-traders established; that the crew of the vessel is composed of whites, mulattoes, and negroes, some Portuguese, others Brazilian, and one Spaniard, whom the hope of great profit from the slaves could alone keep in order; that the vessel was evidently destined for the Trade, having on board a sailor already trained to the Slave Trade, and as apprentice the son of the notorious slave-dealer Cha Cha; that her papers were illegal, being in opposition to various Articles which were cited of the Portuguese Commercial Code, and the letter of orders directed to the master, declaring that the supercargo who embarked on board the vessel was the owner thereof, besides other irregularities and infractions of the Commercial Code; and that she had, moreover, two guns on board—half-pounders—with which she was not authorised to navigate. The high rate of wages, twenty mil reis for each sailor, was also adduced, as well as the difference of admeasurement between that given by the surveying officers and that stated in the Royal passport. With reference to the equipment, it was said that the hatchways were larger than those used in vessels carrying licit cargo of similar tonnage, and that she had on board a cooper with a set of tools, with which they might easily be converted into open hatchways, securing them with the bars of iron which are on board; that the cargo was stowed in such a manner as showed the intention of carrying slaves, the Indian corn being placed aft, and the calabashes forward. That on the stove, which measured 720 square inches, a boiler might be placed to cook for a cargo of slaves; that the Indian corn, and the vessels for water, and the farinha on board, were sufficient for the vessel to take a cargo of slaves, especially if she made for any port near to Bahia, and that the calabashes would serve as dishes for their food; that there were also planks on board fitted for a second deck in the cabin, and to place the slaves therein, there being three bunks for the officers of the vessel; in addition to all which was to be taken into consideration that the cargo was not manifested.

The master's proctor had subsequently inspection of the proceedings for three days; and in his defence he shows the interior state of the divisions in the vessel, the quality and quantity of her cargo, and the absolute want and absence of all preparations and helps indispensable for carrying on the Slave Trade, as well as the firmness of the master in not attending to the suggestions which were made to him. He then describes the points which the vessel touched at to trade, the nature of that trade, and the visits which she had undergone from the cruisers who had always let her pass free, finding her papers to be regular.

Notice is also taken of the bills of credit which appear in these proceedings, to show the reason of the vessel returning to the same ports till the time of her seizure, and which obliged the master to repair on board, to follow the fate of his vessel, alluding to the different circumstances which occurred at the time of her seizure between the captor and the parties captured, respecting the illegality of the papers. Referring to the survey, the defence dwells on the fact that the surveying officer for the captor agreed on all the principal points which prove entire absence of legitimate grounds for suspicion; that the hatchways were close, as in all merchant-vessels of licit trade; that they were not, and could not be made, open hatchways, and that the idea brought forward by the accusing party of converting them into open hatchways, by means of the bars which all merchant-vessels of licit commerce have to fasten down their hatchways, merited no attention, and that it was shown that the latter were

in proportion to the size and dimensions of the vessel. That it was proved that the divisions were not in greater number than was necessary for vessels of licit trade, and that there was no room to consider as such the places provided for receiving the Indian corn; that it was proved that the after division, which was already full, was in every respect equal and similar to the forward one, the latter having a space which would not admit more than ten or twelve persons, and, therefore, the captor could not tell what number it could hold, because a number of from twelve to twenty, which at the most they could take, was deserving of no attention in relation to the 300 which a slaver would at the least have to carry; that there were no planks in the hold for a second deck for slaves, as the narrow and different-sized planks which formed the cabin floor could not be so considered. That it was proved that there were no shackles or handcuffs, no casks or other vessels for water, required for a great number of slaves; that it was seen that there were only two dishes and a tub for washing decks, and it was thought extraordinary that the accusing party should consider the calabashes, which were shipped at Onim to the number of 9000, could be used for that purpose, they being new, and intended for sale at Bahia, where they were much valued, and were worth one mil reis each; that the stove, besides being of the ordinary size, or even less, as was shown by the survey, had not the helps which the English stoves usually have for cooking for a great number of persons; that the fire-wood was not cut to fit one piece into another; that the sixty-five mats by their quality preclude all suspicion, and documents were adduced to show that the vessel had on a preceding voyage to Bahia carried over similar ones. The defence then refers to the various circumstances respecting the escape of the crew, and the different ways it was accounted for; observing further, that the cargo not being complete, there could be no manifest, and that the supposed infractions of the Portuguese Commercial Code, if there were really any such, could be imputed only to the Portuguese authorities at Bahia; and, as to the surprise expressed at the Captain's having produced a letter in which Manoel Durães declares the supercargo to be the owner of the vessel, it was treated as frivolous.

The proceedings being subsequently discussed in open Court, the claim and defence were read, when it being observed by the Court that mention was made by the claimant of two small guns, some bars of iron, and bunks being on board, no notice of which appears in the proceedings, the proctor for the defence was asked if he admitted the existence of such articles on board; he answered yes, but that the guns were authorised by the documents which were in the proceedings, denying, however, that there were any iron bars, as those with which the hatchways were to be fastened down, and which all vessels engaged in licit trade are accustomed to have, cannot be considered as such. The proctors on both sides having stated that they had nothing further to offer, the Court adjourned to consider their sentence. At a subsequent sitting, the proctor for the captured party was asked for an explanation of certain expressions in his defence, which appeared offensive to some members of the Court, and having given a satisfactory answer, the Court proceeded to consider their sentence. The British Commissioner declared that it appeared to him that the schooner "*Agua*" had infringed the IXth Article of the Treaty in some of its sections, without producing any satisfactory defence for so doing, on which account he considered her to be a good prize, and condemned her as such. The Commissioner on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty said that he saw in the proceedings clear and incontestably satisfactory proof that the Portuguese vessel "*Agua*" was at the time of her detention engaged in a licit undertaking, and that the articles which she had on board in contravention to the 10th Section of the IXth Article of the Treaty were necessary for lawful purposes on that voyage; in consequence of which he released the above vessel, without any right, however, to indemnity for losses, damages, or expenses caused by the detention, the said vessel being bound to pay all such. The two Commissioners having thus disagreed, the Arbitrator already previously chosen by lot to decide such disagreement, was called in, who said that after having examined the whole of the proceedings, he would confer with the Commissioners. The sittings for the decision of the above difference, and the publication of the sentence, subsequently took place; present, the British Commissioner and the Arbitrator on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty, acting as Commissioner on account of the severe illness of the Portuguese Commissioner, when, through the intervention of the Arbitrator on whom the lot had fallen, the schooner "*Agua*" was restored, without right to indemnity for losses, damages, or expenses caused by the detention, and the vessel ordered to be given up, so soon as the master should have paid the costs and expenses of this trial.

A petition of the Marshal for an augmentation of the sum which had been stipulated for his services was granted, as was also one from the Interpreter to the same purpose. Another petition from the captor was also acceded to, allowing the expense which he was put to for the proctor's fee to be inserted as an item in the costs of suit.

2.—*State of the Liberated Negroes.*

1. The 4 negroes liberated by sentence of the Mixed Commission dated 29th March, 1845, are, it is informed, in the Portuguese naval service.

2. It is known to the Mixed Commission that one of the 16 negroes remaining out of the 20 who were liberated by its sentence dated 27th March, 1848, has obtained from the Board of Superintendence his full liberty, that one other is still absent, and that two of them have enlisted in the Portuguese military forces.

3.—*General Information respecting the Libertos.*

1. With regard to the 4 libertos in the Portuguese navy, the Commission has no further information, beyond that they conduct themselves well, and are well treated.

2. With reference to the 12 others in charge of this Colony, this Commission is informed that 3 of them, from age, want of aptitude and disposition to learn any trade, are employed in manual labour, and that the remaining 9 are engaged in different mechanical trades. They have all the same treatment as the other libertos under the charge of this Government, receiving the food proper for negroes, but in abundance.

Hall of Sessions of the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Loanda, April 1, 1854.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON,

Commissioner on the part of Her Britannic Majesty.

GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY,

Commissioner on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

No. 84.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, November 9, 1854.

1. CAPTAIN RODOVALHO, whose last cruize was somewhat curtailed from the "Serra do Pilar" being required for the conveyance hither of the newly appointed Acting Governor-General, sailed again yesterday for the south, whither he was the more desirous of returning as quickly as possible, from information received of one or more vessels being expected in those parts for the purpose of shipping slaves. This information had likewise been conveyed to Her Majesty's steamer "Pluto," which he left cruising in that direction, as also to His Most Faithful Majesty's schooner of war "Conde do Tojal."

2. During his short stay in this port an American schooner called the "Oxford" arrived from New York, *viâ* St. Helena, respecting which, both from its being given out that she was for sale, and from certain circumstances which have occurred at the latter place, strong suspicions were entertained that she was intended for a slave venture.

3. Captain Rodovalho caused a strict examination of the "Oxford" to be made in consequence; from which it appeared that, with a crew of only seven, she had twelve pipes of water on board, besides three empty ones, which were shown by the New York manifest to have been filled with aguardente, which she sold at St. Helena, retaining the empty casks on board. Nothing beyond this being discovered to warrant the suspicion of illicit trading, no further step has been taken than to intimate to her Captain that he would not be allowed to leave this port with these empty casks on board, and we understand he has already disposed of six out of the fifteen which he brought with him.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

P.S.—November 22. Since writing the above despatch Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Pluto" has arrived, and Lieutenant Hoskins, commanding that vessel, assured Mr. Gabriel that no such intimation as is therein-mentioned had reached him; a statement which he reiterated on being subsequently shown this despatch by Her Majesty's Commissioner.

G. J.

E. G.

No. 85.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, December 1, 1854.

1. WITH reference to our preceding despatch, we have the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, the translation of a private letter, dated Benguella the 22nd ultimo, which Her Majesty's Commissioner has just received from Captain Rodovalho, giving an account of the seizure by him, a day or two before, at an establishment in the neighbourhood of Equimina, of 194 slaves whom he found, he says, in irons and ready to be shipped.

2. These negroes were carried in the "Serra do Pilar" to Benguella, and by him placed in deposit in the fortress at that place, together with the individual Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, a native of Portugal, in whose possession they were when taken, and your Lordship will see that Captain Rodovalho speaks of eventually bringing them to Loanda for trial.

3. We understand, however, that he has been instructed to submit the case to the local judicial authorities, to whom—the seizure having been made on shore—it belongs to try it, in conformity with the VIIIth Article of the Decree of 1844.

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4. In the mean time, the parties interested are exerting themselves by the presentation of protests, certificates, &c., to prove that the aforesaid negroes were not destined to be sent beyond sea, but were wanted and intended for the cultivation of the estate on which they were captured. Judging from the past, it is too much to be feared that they will succeed in this attempt.

5. Your Lordship will observe that Captain Rodovalho at the close of his letter mentions a commission with which he is charged to the port of Pinda. This spot is marked on the chart as Port Alexander, situated in about 17° south latitude, where he has been ordered to superintend the formation of a new establishment, for which purpose a small force of about twenty black soldiers, under the command of Portuguese officers, has been sent.

6. Your Lordship will, we doubt not, have heard from Sir Richard Pakenham on this subject, which is, probably, connected with an announcement made by the order of the "Conselho Ultramarino" dated the 29th August, 1854, referring to the formation of two mining companies, one at the Cape of Good Hope, for the exploration of copper and other metals in Southern Africa.

7. The instructions received from Lisbon on this head seem to have taken every one by surprise; but a small merchant-vessel has already been sent from hence to Pinda, on speculation, with goods to the value of five or six contos of reis.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 85.

Captain Rodovalho to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

Benguella, November 22, 1854.

WHILE at anchor here on the 16th, I was informed by a negro (Ladino) who had escaped from Equimina, where he had been held in irons, that at the estate of Ignacio Teixeira Xavier there established, there were a great number of slaves ready to be embarked for beyond sea. As soon as I was informed of this, I made preparations for repairing to the spot pointed out, and leaving Benguella on the 17th, I went and anchored in Elephant's Bay, in order not to excite suspicion. On the night of the 19th, I left the ship at 11 o'clock, with a party of forty men, and landing in the Bay of Equimina, I made at once for the establishment of the said Ignacio, where I arrived at 3 o'clock in the morning. As the night was dark, I caused the premises to be completely surrounded, keeping quite quiet till the day broke. As soon as it was light, I ordered the door of the yard to be opened; and on entering in, I saw a great number of slaves in irons, who, the moment they perceived me, began clapping their hands for joy, knowing that I was come to deliver them out of captivity and the chains in which they had been languishing. I then proceeded to apprehend Ignacio, whom I brought with me on board, together with 194 slaves who were there ready to be shipped, leaving only on the estate those who were employed upon the cultivation of it. As, according to His Majesty's orders, I must not fail to carry out the commission for the port of Pinda which is intrusted to me, it was necessary for me to return to Benguella, where I leave them in deposit in the fortress, to wait my return, that I may then receive and carry them to Loanda, where I think they ought to be tried by the proper Court.

(Signed) J. M. DE SA. RODOVALHO.

No. 86.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, December 16, 1854.

1. HAVING noticed the annexed announcement extracted from the last "Boletim," No. 480 of the 9th instant, of the arrival of an individual named A. R. M. Negrão, from Benguella, in a Portuguese merchantman, accompanied by 8 slaves, Her Majesty's Commissioner took the opportunity of a recent sitting of the Board of Superintendence to bring the circumstance under the notice of the Acting Governor-General, and to inquire whether the Senhor Negrão brought these slaves with him under the provisions of the Vth Article of the Treaty of 1842.

2. His Excellency's reply was very remarkable. After saying that this individual did not come here in the character of a settler, he went on to state, that on his first assuming the government of Benguella three years ago, he was surprised to find that the transfer of slaves from Benguella to Loanda, and *vice versa*, was habitually carried on; that he himself admitted that such transfer beyond the number allowed in the several provisions of the Article referred to, was in opposition to the letter of the Treaty; but that, finding it had become an every-day practice, and that, as he said, the cruizers did not interfere where there was no ground for suspicion of Slave Trade transactions, he had himself acquiesced in it until the General Government of Angola passed into the hands of Captain Graça, by whose orders it was discontinued; but that upon the installation of the Visconde do Pinheiro he received directions from him again to permit the practice, from which time to the present it has been continued.

3. His Excellency, however, added, that if it were intimated to him by any one competent to do so, that Her Majesty's cruizers would not allow vessels to pass, on board of which an undue number of slaves were shipped, he would immediately instruct the Acting Governor at Benguella to withhold his sanction to such transfers in future.

4. His Excellency then called for the "Boletims" of past years to prove his statement, and reasserted that Her Majesty's cruizers had been in the habit of permitting the regular traders between this port and Benguella, having slaves on board not destined for the Traffic, to pass unmolested without respect to numbers.

5. Her Majesty's Commissioner replied, that he could not, of course, take upon himself to call in question this statement of his Excellency, but that he could not but think he had been misinformed, as such a proceeding on the part of any British officer would be contrary to his instructions, and that he (Her Majesty's Commissioner) felt assured that, had the "*Restauração*," the merchantman on board of which these slaves had been brought from Benguella, been met by any of Her Majesty's cruizers, she would infallibly have been detained.

6. It was the less necessary, in confirmation of this opinion, to cite any authority, because the Acting Governor-General freely admitted that the Treaty was violated by such shipment, or Her Majesty's Commissioner might have adduced, as he had done in discussing the point with previous Governors, the Portaria inclosed in a despatch from Sir Hamilton Seymour to Viscount Palmerston, dated the 18th March, 1851, addressed by the then Minister of Marine and Ultramar at Lisbon, Visconde de Castellões, to the Governor-General of the Cape de Verd Islands.

7. It may not, however, be here irrelevant to add, that the Visconde de Pinheiro, on his having his attention pointedly called to this document, treated it very lightly, and in fact paid no attention to it whatever.

8. On this subject we beg leave to refer your Lordship to our official correspondence in 1848, and to Viscount Palmerston's despatches to us in reply, of the 29th November of that year and of the 31st July of the following year, in which latter despatch we were instructed not to announce the opinion of Her Majesty's Government on the point in question to our Portuguese colleagues until a case involving it should arise, and Her Majesty's Commissioner would not, therefore, have thought it incumbent upon him to take the notice he has done of the circumstance above referred to, had it not been for the early proceedings of the late Provisional Government (already reported to your Lordship) and that the number now brought from Benguella was so considerable.

9. The Acting Governor-General, at the close of the conversation, declared that he was, as a man and as a public functionary, most hostile to the Slave Trade; that his sentiments on this subject were well known, and, as he hoped, fully confided in, and that he would exert every means in his power to suppress it; but, having said this, and admitted the full extent of the reach of the Treaty, as it now stands, he freely avowed that he thought its provisions had not been duly attended to by his Government at the time of its signature; that he saw no objection to permitting the passage of slaves from one part of the province to the other, or even to the islands, provided that due care was taken, which might easily be

done, to guard against any abuse of such permission; that the industry of the province was very much dependent on such passage, which could not be effected by land; and inquired what inconvenience, always supposing the enforcement of due and stringent regulations, could result from it.

10. Her Majesty's Commissioner, in reply, pointed out the great danger there was of an abuse of the license his Excellency was contending for; reminded him of the endless stratagems and intrigues to which the slave-traffickers had resort; the difficulty, as pointed out by your Lordship to Count Lavradio, of distinguishing the difference between such a conveyance of negroes by sea, and an ordinary Slave Trade operation, and the too-frequent experience which we unfortunately had had, and of which his Excellency himself was well aware, of the little dependence that could be placed on the subordinate local authorities. To these objections must be added the tendency which a constantly recurring and unrestricted transfer of slaves would inevitably have towards perpetuating that condition of slavery which, in the memorable language of Count Lavradio, is contrary to the principles of natural law and to the precepts of Christianity, and which the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty has on so many occasions professed its anxious desire to extinguish throughout the whole of its African possessions, as well continental as insular.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 86.

Extract from the "Boletim Official" of the Province of Angola, of December 9, 1854.

ENTRADAS. Dezembro 7.—Patacho Portuguez "*Restauração*," 130 tonel., Capitão C. M. Moreira, trip. 10; de Benguella em 4 dias, com generos do paiz, 2 malas. Pasg. 18, A. R. M. Negrão, pharmaceutico, com 4 pessoas de familia e 8 escravos; A. M. Moreira, commerciante, 3 cabindas e um menor, maritimos.

No. 87.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Loanda, December 18, 1854.

WE have the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the translation of a Portaria which has recently been issued by the Acting Governor-General of this Province, with reference to the carriage of casks on board merchant-vessels.

Inclosure in No. 87.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

THE preparation and use of fish oil having become an important branch of industry at different points of the coast of this province, and it becoming necessary, in consequence, to adopt measures by which the casks for holding this article may be carried to such parts, care at the same time being taken that they shall not be employed for different and illicit purposes, regard being had to the provisions of the 3rd and 4th sections of the VIIth Article, and to those of the VIIIth Article of the Decree of 10th December, 1836, as well as to those of the 6th section of the IXth Article of the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, concluded between Portugal and Great Britain for the extinction of the Traffic in Slaves, I have thought it expedient to determine as follows:

Art. 1. The exportation of casks (pipes or barrels) in coasting vessels from the ports of Loanda, Benguella, and Mossamedes, for any points whatever of the coast of this province, is permitted, such casks being destined for the transport of fish—or palm—oil, or any other purposes of licit trade.

Art. 2. The permission granted in the preceding Article shall be subject to the two following conditions:—

1st. The persons so sending casks (whether in shakes or entire) shall enter into a bond at the Custom-house at Loanda, Benguella, and at the Government Secretary's Office at Mossamedes, till a Custom-house be there established, to produce the same casks full at either of the above three ports of Loanda, Benguella, or Mossamedes.

2nd. The vessels carrying these casks, whether empty or returning full, must be provided with a certificate of the bond given for them. By this document alone can the existence of casks on board be legalised.

Art. 3. The amount of the bond shall be regulated by the number of casks, 400 milreis being paid for each cask. More than twenty casks shall never be permitted to be exported in the same vessel.

Art. 4. The number of casks shall be declared in the bond; the use for which they are intended; the point where they are to be filled; and the port to which they are then to be carried.

Art. 5. The term for which the bond shall be valid shall be determined by the Collector of the Customs at Loanda or Benguella, or by the Governor of the district of Mossamedes, under their responsibility respectively, and so as that within such term the vessels may proceed to the points where the casks are to be filled, may then carry them in that state to the port to which they are bound, and the requisite certificates of their having been there received transmitted to that from which the casks were taken empty, whenever such ports may be different.

Art. 6. The bond can only be cancelled by producing the casks at the port whence they were taken, or the certificate mentioned in the preceding Article, or by proof of the shipwreck of the vessel which was carrying them.

Art. 7. At the expiration of the term of the bond, and in case of its not having been cancelled by either of the modes laid down in the preceding Article, the amount of the same shall be at once realized and paid.

Art. 8. This payment shall in no way exempt the exporters of the casks from the obligation of proving what was done with them, nor from the penalties to which they and their accomplices would be liable, on its being proved that such casks had been employed in illicit Slave Trade speculations.

All authorities and others whom it may concern shall give due effect to the above Portaria.

Palace of Government, Loanda, November 18, 1854.

(Signed)

JOSE RODRIGUES COELHO DO AMARAL,

Acting Governor-General.

No. 88.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, December 26, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of July 29, transmitting to us, for our information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, reporting the condemnation of the American slaver "*Glamorgan*."

2. Believing that the publication of that fact, and still more of the address presented by the grand jury of the district of Massachusetts to the President of the United States, inclosed in Mr. Crampton's despatch, might have a good effect in these parts, by showing the risks to which slave-traffickers expose themselves by the use of the American flag, Her Majesty's Commissioner, after condensing the above despatch and its inclosure into a narrower compass, translated it into Portuguese, and requested the Acting Governor-General to give orders for its insertion in the "Official Boletim," which his Excellency very readily assented to.

3. Although the subject to which this address of the grand jury more particularly refers, has been more than once brought by this Commission under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, namely, the disposal of the persons, exclusively of the common sailors, found on board slave-vessels, we cannot, my Lord, refrain on this occasion from adding our own testimony, founded on frequent experience (to place it in a stronger light than the grand jury has done would be difficult), to that part of the address which no less forcibly than truly points out the mischief attendant on the course now practised.

The case of the capture of the "*Milaudon*," reported in our despatch of the 20th of June last, is only one of the many instances to which the observations of the grand jury on this head apply.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.

EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 89.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, December 26, 1854.

1. WE have had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of August 23, transmitting to us, for our information, copies of the letters written respectively by Commander Phillips, of Her Majesty's ship "Polyphemus," and Lieutenant Pearse, of Her Majesty's ship "Atholl," with reference to the statement contained in our despatch of April 29, relating the improper embarkation of slaves which had taken place in the harbour of Loanda, on board the Portuguese transport "Trindade," while three of Her Majesty's ships were lying there.

2. The assertion of Lieutenant Pearse, confirming, as it does, the assurance given us by Commander Phillips, as reported in the postscript to our above-mentioned despatch, it would have been unnecessary to revert to the subject, were it not that the latter officer speaks in his letter of the "reflection on the vigilance of the three ships," which he assumes to have been cast upon them by Her Majesty's Commissioner.

Sir G. Jackson begs to state, so far as this from being the case, that the purport of the communication made to your Lordship was fully made known to Commander Phillips, to whom it was distinctly explained that that communication referred not to any opinion formed by Her Majesty's Commissioner, but to what was said by parties here in justification of the proceeding after it had taken place.

3. What grounds Commander Phillips may have for the version contained in his letter, of a transaction of which Her Majesty's Commissioner thought he had been the first to acquaint him, on his return to this port, some days later, Her Majesty's Commissioner cannot take upon himself to say; neither is the latter aware of the grounds upon which he says that "the Portuguese authorities defend this and other acts of a similar nature."

4. The real facts of the case are as stated in the reply we shall have the honour to make to your Lordship's despatch of September 20, brought by the same conveyance as the one the receipt of which we are now acknowledging.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 90.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, December 27, 1854.

1. WE have had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 20th September, in which you state the opinion of Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the shipment of slaves in the Colonial transport "Trindade," as reported in our despatch of the 29th April, and further desire that we will furnish you with positive information, first, as to whether the transport in question was exclusively a colonial vessel, and secondly, whether the negroes shipped on board had been legally emancipated, and whether they did not come within any of the exceptions of the Treaty, especially of Article V.

2. Your Lordship moreover instructs us to inform you if it should come to our knowledge that any legal defence or pretext exists, on which the Portuguese authorities rely as justifying their proceedings.

3. On the first point we can only repeat, in addition to the statement made in paragraphs 8 and 9 of our above-mentioned despatch of the 29th

April, that the "*Trindade*" was not, at the time when she made the several shipments complained of, nor ever has been, under the orders of the Commandant of the Naval Station; that she was bought by this Provincial Government; that she had been employed exclusively by it, sailing under its sole authority, and taking freights from merchants to and fro for the different Portuguese establishments, sometimes to the south, and sometimes to the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince's; that her voyages have never extended further; and that she does not, as already observed, carry the instructions contained in Annex A to the Treaty.

4. As regards your Lordship's second inquiry, we beg leave to refer you to the 22nd and 25th paragraphs of the same despatch, with reference to which we can state, that certificates have been required from the Custom-house and forwarded to Lisbon by parties inimical to the present Juiz de Direito, with a view to criminate him, and bring home to him the share which he was from the first said to have had in that illegal transaction.

5. A rather ludicrous report connected therewith has reached this place from St. Thomas and Prince's, to the effect that some of those persons who sailed from hence to those islands in the "*Trindade*" figuring as settlers or "colonos," were desirous on their arrival there, after disposing of the slaves they had been allowed by this Provincial Government to take with them, of divesting themselves of their borrowed character, and of leaving the islands, but that the Governor had refused them passports, saying that as they came there as settlers, so they must remain.

6. On the remaining point, namely, the existence of any legal defence or pretext, as justifying such proceedings on the part of the Portuguese authorities, as it has been our duty to bring under the cognizance of Her Majesty's Government, your Lordship may, perhaps, have noticed the argument attempted in the Portuguese Chambers, viz., that though no one "colono" could be accompanied by more than 10 slaves, yet there was nothing in the Treaty to restrict the number of "colonos," and, consequently, nothing to prevent the same vessel carrying an indefinite number of slaves, provided they did not belong to the same master.

7. This reading of the Treaty, at direct variance, as we understand it, with the first sentence of the 4th section of the Vth Article, was strongly insisted on by the late Provisional Government.

8. Their violation of the Treaty, however, did not consist so much in the above interpretation, as in the allowing men of straw to figure as settlers, and such a destitute penniless foreigner—though it has since been pretended that he had become a naturalized Portuguese subject—as Antonio Dias Pinho—the man who was allowed to embark on board the "*Esperança*" transport with 10 slaves, on the 19th April, to pass as a Portuguese settler who had been permanently residing in this province with his household servants.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 91.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)

My Lord,

Loanda, December 30, 1854.

1. WE have the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a translated copy of a letter which Her Majesty's Commissioner received from the Secretary-General of this Government on the 28th instant, as also a copy of the reply which he considered it his duty to return to it.

2. This day the reception to which these papers refer took place, and though the circumstances which have given rise to and attended this affair, are of a nature little calculated to invest it with that solemnity and importance which it has been attempted to give to it, or to raise the character of this Provincial Government; yet considering the bearing it has on the question now so much agitated of the "reserved" territorial

rights of Portugal, we deem it expedient to forward to your Lordship, for your information, the statement just published of it in the "Official Boletim," together with a translation of the same.

3. This whole business dates from, and may probably be said to be connected with, the mission of the Secretary-General and other officers in the "Serra do Pilar," to Cabinda, as reported in our despatch of December 13, 1853,* and has been revived, we have reason to believe, by certain parties here, both as a means of ingratiating themselves with those in authority, as well here as at Lisbon, and with a view to their own immediate local interests.

4. These views the Acting Governor-General seems to have adopted, and he is, we fear, to a certain extent disposed to encourage, if not to act upon them, by some more decided and unequivocal demonstration. But your Lordship will not fail to observe, that while "the King of Molembo" is made by this pretended "Embassy" to call for the occupation of his territory by a Portuguese armed force, the Governor-General in his speech limits himself to the assurance that he will do all in his power to satisfy the desire expressed on this point. We shall not be surprised, however, to find that the "Serra do Pilar," on her return from the south, which is every day expected, is ordered to proceed to Molembo, though it seems very doubtful whether the "representation" will be recognized on the spot as authentic, and as expressing the genuine wishes of the country whence it professes to proceed, and whether, if an attempt should be made by the Portuguese to establish any authority there, military or fiscal, it would be permitted.

5. The individuals composing this Embassy, as your Lordship will collect, could neither read nor write; they are natives of that part of the coast who did not pretend so much as to express by any formal oration the wishes with which they are said to have been charged, but on the "representation" which they were made to present being read aloud, sentence by sentence, by the Secretary-General, they were asked whether that was what they desired to say, to which they answered by an inclination of the head, or at most a "Sim, Senhor."

6. In fact, the "representation" would more properly have borne the date of Loanda, rather than of Molembo; in other words there is little doubt but that it was got up by persons in this city, in connexion with a well-known slave-trafficker on that part of the coast.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 91.

The Secretary-General to the Provisional Government to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Loanda, December 28, 1854.

AN Embassy from the King of Molembo having arrived in this city for the purpose, as they have just informed the Governor-General, of praying as Portuguese subjects, which from time immemorial they consider themselves to be, that there may be established in their country some authority capable of regulating more particularly the service with respect to the navigation of launches between that point and Loanda, in order the better to prevent the repetition of the frequent cases which have occurred of their capture for the want of the requisite papers ("despachos"), and also to guard against the carrying on of the Slave Trade, with a view to the consequent development of which licit commerce is susceptible; and the Governor-General, being desirous of giving to this spontaneous manifestation of these people all the solemnity which it is deserving of, and of investing it with all the authentic formalities, in order that the new and weighty title which is given to the Crown of Portugal over those parts of the Monarchy, besides those others which are already recorded in different Treaties, and which arise from priority in the discovery and conquest of these regions, may for all future time be consigned in the annals of this province directs me to invite you to assist at this solemn act, which is to take place in the Palace of Government on the 30th instant, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CARLOS POSSOLLO DE SOUZA.

* See Class A, presented 1854, No. 90.

Inclosure 2 in No. 91.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Secretary-General to the Provisional Government.

Sir,

Loanda, December 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, informing me that an Embassy having arrived at Loanda from the King of Molembo, charged to lay certain petitions before the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, whose subjects they declare themselves to be, the Acting Governor-General of this province, desirous that the new and weighty title which the Crown of Portugal acquires, by such a manifestation, to those parts of the Monarchy from whence this Embassy proceeds, may, for all future time, be consigned in the annals of this province, directs you to invite me to assist at this solemn act, which is to take place on the 30th instant at the Palace of Government.

Your letter does not appear to be addressed to me as British Commissioner; but as it is in that character alone that my presence could add anything to the "solemnity" or "formality" with which his Excellency contemplates investing it, I am under the necessity of referring the Acting Governor-General to the tenour of a despatch from the Earl of Clarendon to Viscount Lavradio, dated 26th November, 1853,* which has been forwarded to me for my information and guidance by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (the purport, at least, of which I presume must be known to this General Government), as my reason for respectfully declining to appear on the occasion in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. JACKSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 91.

Extract from the "Boletim Official" of the Province of Angola, of December 30, 1854.

THIS day took place in the Audience Hall of the Palace of the General Government the solemn reception of the Ambassadors whom the King of Molembo, Capita Munipolo, had sent spontaneously to this city in order to take with every formality, before his Excellency the Governor-General, as Delegate of His Most Faithful Majesty, the oath of fealty and homage to the same august Lord.

We transcribe below the Minute which was drawn up, after having heard the exposition of the said Ambassadors, in which they manifested the ardent desires entertained by the King of Molembo that their nationality should once for all be defined, in order to avoid future contestation. By this will be seen the honourable manner in which the act of their reception took place, all the principal dignitaries of the province, the Commanders of the forces, of the forts, the heads of departments, the public functionaries, and the commercial body, assisting at the same.

When the process of taking the oath was concluded, a flying battery, which had been placed in the palace-square, fired a salute of twenty-one guns, after which the Ambassadors were conducted to the dining-room, where a handsome and plentiful refreshment awaited them, to which they did due honour, manifesting in their countenances the satisfaction they felt at the good success of their Embassy.

During this interval, the Minute already referred to was drawn up, which, being read in the presence of the said Ambassadors, who found it conformable in every respect to the important object of their mission, they signed after his Excellency the Governor-General and his Excellency the Right Reverend the Bishop of the Diocese; and the same was afterwards signed by all the persons who had assisted at this solemnity.

Minute of acknowledgment of Fealty and Vassalage offered to His Most Faithful Majesty the King of Portugal, Don Pedro V, by the King of Molembo, Capita Munipolo, by his Ambassadors, before the Governor-General of the Province of Angola.

On the 30th day of December, 1854, in this City of St. Paul da Assumpção de Loanda, in the Palace of the General Government of the Province of Angola. Present; the Governor-General José Rodrigues Coelho do Amaral, his Excellency the Right Reverend the Bishop of the Diocese, Don Joaquim Moreira Reis, the members of the Council of Government, the Commanders of corps in garrison in this city, various authorities and divers functionaries, whose signatures are all affixed below, for the purpose of receiving in solemn audience the Ambassadors of the King of Molembo, Zau, son of the King, Linguester Beriga, his son-in-law, Fernando and André, his brothers-in-law, and besides them three noblemen recently arrived from their country.

Being introduced into the Audience Hall, they said to his Excellency the Governor-General that they presented themselves before him, authorised by the said King of Molembo, with the entire concurrence of his legitimate successor the Prince, and of his counsellors and principal subjects, to declare that they desired to be considered as vassals of the Portuguese Crown, as their fathers and oldest ancestors ever had been, and had ever regarded themselves, according to the tradition which had come down to them; that with this view they not only consented, but even requested, that their said country of Molembo should be occupied by a Portuguese armed force; that there should be established there a regular authority of His Most Faithful Majesty, and that forts should be constructed at suitable points; that they hoped that his Excellency the Governor-General would accept the declaration which they had just made by the express order of the King of Molembo, and by his entirely free and spontaneous will; they relied also on the usages and customs of their country being kept and respected by the authorities of His Most Faithful Majesty in all points not opposed to the principles of humanity and to the laws of the Portuguese nation, which they desired and were bound to obey as subjects, which they were, of that nation.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 340.

To this his Excellency the Governor-General replied, that he accepted in the name of His Most Faithful Majesty, as his delegate and representative in this province, the spontaneous tender of vassalage that was by this act deposited in his hands by the said Ambassadors, in the name of the King of Molembo and of his people; this, without prejudice to the anterior rights which the Crown of Portugal already possessed to dominion over the territory of Molembo, and over others from 5° 12' to 8° south latitude, by the incontestable fact of the discovery and conquest of the coast comprehended within these limits. That he would at once inform the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty of the act which had this day taken place, of that solemn manifestation of obedience on the part of the King of Molembo, and that in the meantime he would do all in his power to satisfy the desires manifested by the Ambassadors with reference to the occupation of their country by Portuguese forces and authorities.

The audience was then concluded, and the present Minute ordered to be drawn up, which all signed, after it had been read by me, Carlos Possollo de Souza, Secretary-General of the Government.

(Signed)

JOSE RODRIGUES COELHO DO AMARAL,

Acting Governor-General.

THE BISHOP OF ANGOLA AND THE CONGO.

DE ^{his} $\times$ ZAU, *Son of the King of Munipolo.*
mark.

LINGUESTER ^{his} $\times$ BERIGA, *his Son-in-law.*
mark.

DE ^{his} $\times$ FERNANDO, *his Brother-in-law.*
mark.

DE ^{his} $\times$ ANDRE, *his Brother-in-law.*
mark.

A NOBLEMAN ^{his} $\times$ AMBASSADOR.
mark.

ANTONIO FAUSTINIO DOS SANTOS CRESPO,

Juiz de Direito, &c.

CARLOS POSSOLLO DE SOUZA,

Secretary-General of the Government.

No. 92.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, December 30, 1854.

1. REFERRING your Lordship to our despatch of the 5th July last, and its inclosures, on the subject of the expulsion of Francisco Antonio Flores from the province, we have the honour to inform your Lordship that the period of five months which had been granted him to wind up his affairs having expired on the 7th ultimo, Her Majesty's Commissioner thought it his duty to remind the present Acting Governor-General of the intimation which had been made to that individual by the Provisional Government.

2. His Excellency replied, that Flores having been dangerously ill—a fact of which there could be no doubt—he had applied for a prolongation of the term which was temporarily conceded to him, and that he now only waits the return of a vessel from Benguella, which is expected shortly, and on board of which he had arranged his passage, to take his departure for Lisbon. He added, that beyond this no further concession would be made, and that if he failed to embark in this vessel, as he had engaged to do, he would be put on board some other by compulsion.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.

EDMUND GABRIEL.

LOANDA. (*Board of Superintendence.*)

No. 93.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, January 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, in translation, the report made to the Board of Superintendence by the Curator of Liberated Negroes for the last quarter.

With regard to the very unsatisfactory statement in the last paragraph, I have not failed to call the Curator's particular attention to the subject, and shall have the honour of reporting shortly to your Lordship what steps the Board of Superintendence may decide on taking with reference to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure in No. 93.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

St. Paul de Loanda, December 31, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence for Liberated Negroes that, having visited the negroes now placed at the public works several times during the quarter ending this day, I found—

1. That they were receiving proper treatment.

2. That they were employed as follows :—

In the trade of stonemasonry—Vicente.

In the trade of tinsmith—Felix Calombe.

In the trade of carpenter—Agostinho, Caculo, Marcos Ganga.

In the trade of blacksmith and locksmith—Elizio.

In the trade of cooper—Jacintho, Ganga, Pedro de Loanda.

In manual labour—Matheus, Alvaro, Bunge, Sebastião de Congo.

3. That the libertos Germano Dalla, who was learning the trade of stonemason, and Lourenço Meluange, who was learning the trade of carpenter, have both left off the work in which they were employed, and have become vagrants.

(Signed) GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY,
Curator.

No. 94.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 24, 1854.

1. THE state of the libertos under the care of the Board of Superintendence, as shown by the Curator's last quarterly report, and by several circumstances of a yet more recent date, appearing to me to be very

unsatisfactory, I determined to go myself into a close personal inspection and examination of them one by one; and having for this purpose desired that they might be sent to the private residence of the Curator, I proceeded, assisted by him, to investigate minutely the condition and behaviour of each individual, the result of which your Lordship will find in the inclosed report, which the Curator immediately drew up for the information of the Board, and delivered personally to the Governor-General.

2. The usual practice has been for that functionary, after carefully perusing these reports, to return them to the Curator, who also acts as Secretary to the Board, for transmission to me, and then for either member to call a meeting of the same in case of necessity. This course was not followed in the present instance. The Visconde de Pinheiro retained the report in his own hands; and instead of communicating it to, and conferring with me upon it, called, as Governor-General, on the accused party, the Director of Public Works, for an explanation.

3. I complain not of this; I mention it rather to account for my not having reported this matter for your Lordship's information at an earlier period. His Excellency was frequently reminded of it, but it was not till he had resigned the government that the statement, of which I have the honour to subjoin the inclosed translated extract, was given to the Curator.

4. Your Lordship will observe that the Director does not explicitly deny the truth of the allegations of the libertos; nor would it, I believe, be possible for him to do so, although it is very probable that they may have been intimidated into a denial of them when interrogated by him personally. At all events, the departure of the Governor will make it difficult to proceed any further in the business; but I doubt not that the notice which has been taken of it will be sufficient to prevent a repetition of any similar abuse for the future.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 94.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

St. Paul de Loanda, February 22, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to lay before the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, the result of the inspection to which I yesterday, in presence of the British Commissioner, member of that Board, proceeded, of the libertos placed at the establishment of Public Works, viz.:

1. Vicente (11 years). Well-conducted; apprenticed to stonemason: said that he had no complaint to make, and that he was satisfied with the trade he was learning.

2. Feliz Calombe (9 years). Well conducted. This liberto has a sickly appearance, has a cough, and has at different times been in the hospital for medical treatment; apprenticed to the trade of tinman; said that he had no representations to make, and that he was content with the trade he was learning.

3. Agostinho Caculo (25 years). Well conducted; suffers from fits; apprentice to the trade of carpenter: said that, on that same day, he had returned to the establishment of Public Works from the Government Palace, where he had been employed in house-work; that he had nothing further to say, and that he was satisfied with the trade he was learning.

4. Marcus Ganga (10 years). Well conducted; carpenter's apprentice: declared that he had no representation to make, and that he was satisfied with the trade he was learning.

5. Elizio (9 years). Well conducted; apprentice to the trade of black and locksmith; declared that his master sent him repeatedly on errands, and that, on that account, he could not learn his trade well, but that he was satisfied with it.

6. Jacintho Ganga (12 years). Well conducted; apprentice to the trade of carpenter: said that he changed from that of cooper, there being no master cooper at the establishment; that he had nothing to represent, and that he was satisfied with his present trade.

7. Pedro de Loanda (12 years), cooper: said that he did not sell his tools, as imputed to him; that on one occasion, having been seven days in the blackhole of the establishment, he found that a part of them was wanting, and that the remainder had been kept by the cooper Thomas (which was ascertained to be true), and that the only representation he had to make was that he had not tools to work with.

8. Mattheus (19 years), an old negro, employed in manual labour: said that he did not wish to learn any trade, and that he had no representations to make, except that he was in want of clothes, the cloth which he had had having been stolen.

9. Alvare Bunge (31 years), old negro employed in manual labour: declared that he had nothing to say.

10. Sebastião de Congo (27 years), old negro employed in manual labour: declared that all he had to say was that he wished to work in company with the liberto Vicente.

11. Germano Dalla (11 years), apprentice to stonemason: said that he was satisfied with the trade he was learning; but that he was often obliged to carry the machilla (palanquin) of the Commandant Ribeiro; and that, on that account, he had left off working at his trade.

12. Lourenço Miluange (10 years), apprentice to stonemason: said that he was satisfied with his trade; but that he was often obliged, by order of the Commandant, to carry machillas for anybody who applied at the establishment for bearers, and that he wished to continue learning the above trade.

(Signed) G. C. DEMONY,
Curator of the Libertos.

N.B.—The figures placed after the name denote the presumed age of each liberto at the period of his emancipation.

Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

Substance of the Reply of the Commandant Ribeiro to the complaints of certain of the Libertos.

(Translation.)

March 23, 1854.

IN obedience to your Excellency's orders that I should give such information as I may have to offer respecting the complaints of the libertos, as stated in the Curator's report, I have to observe that the misconduct of some of these libertos is well known to Senhor Demony and Sir George Jackson, particularly that of Germano Dalla, Lourenço Miluange, and Pedro de Loanda; for the times they have absented themselves from this establishment are innumerable, and the corrections they have undergone of being put into confinement on farinha and water for eight days at a time, has been so frequent that the punishment has had no effect upon them.

The allegation of Germano Dalla and Lourenço Miluange, that they had left off working at their trades because they were obliged to carry machillas, is a cunning pretext to cover the neglect of their work, which is proved by their denial, when I interrogated them to-day, of those points, as stated in the Curator's report, and declaring that they did not say so.

No. 95.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 24, 1854.

1. THE Governor-General, the Visconde do Pinheiro, having repeatedly complained to me of the inconvenience and mischief he experienced from the existence of the libertos in this slave-holding Colony, confided to the care of the Board of Superintendence, and placed provisionally under the charge of this Colonial Government, in virtue of the XXIst Article of Annex C to the Treaty, I thought the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th November, 1853,* afforded a very favourable opportunity for securing his Excellency's concert and recommendation to the views of Her Majesty's Government as therein expressed. I therefore took upon myself to address to him the letter of which the inclosed is a copy.

2. His Excellency told me on this occasion that so sensibly did he feel the inconvenience referred to, that, but for the reply of Viscount Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham, he would at once have taken on himself to agree to the removal of the libertos in question, and that, as it was, he would transmit my letter to his Government, and urge upon them, in the strongest manner, the expediency of acceding to the proposal of Her Majesty's Government, promising me an early answer to my communication, and an exposition of his own views on the subject. It should seem, however, that in the preparations for his departure he lost sight of this matter, and it was only yesterday that I received the letter of which I have now the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, a translation.

3. Before concluding this subject, however, I should be allowed to call your Lordship's attention to the state of 3 of the libertos, numbered respectively in the Curator's Report, inclosure in my preceding despatch, 8, 9, and 10, from which statement your Lordship will, probably, be of opinion that their removal would neither be an advisable nor a charitable act. They will be entitled, according to Treaty, to their full liberty in another twelvemonth, and will be able to maintain themselves, pretty much as they now do, by manual labour, *i. e.*, by carrying machillas, or by

* See Class A, presented 1854, No. 103.

lending their toil to those trades which they have themselves refused to learn, and would, probably, quit with reluctance their present residence and habits: No. 3 as to age is similarly circumstanced.

4. How far the younger libertos would be disposed to emigrate I cannot say; but it should be borne in mind that even of the youngest of these the time wanting to complete the full period prescribed by Annex C is now much reduced; two of them, Nos. 2 and 5, having five years; two, Nos. 4 and 12, four years; two, Nos. 1 and 11, three years; and two, Nos. 6 and 7, two years only to run before the period stipulated by Treaty for the enjoyment of their full and complete liberty will have expired.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 95.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Governor-General of Loanda.

Sir,

Loanda, February 21, 1854.

REFERRING to the many conversations I have had with your Excellency on the subject of the libertos, and especially to what passed between us at our last interview, I have now the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, an extract from a despatch that I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of a proposal Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon had been instructed to make to the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty to relieve the Government of Angola from the charge of the negroes liberated by sentence of the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission, under the care and superintendence of the Board of which your Excellency and myself are joint members, and who are now provisionally provided for under the XXIst Article of Annex C to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, by this Colonial Government.

This proposal the Government of Her Most Faithful Majesty has declined acceding to in a despatch, of which I have also the honour to furnish your Excellency with a copy, in English, as transmitted to me, from Viscount Athoquia to Sir Richard Pakenham, dated 4th November last.

My object in making this communication to your Excellency, which I do upon my own responsibility, is to afford you the opportunity, should you think proper, of making such representations to your Government respecting it, as may appear to you expedient, knowing as you do, on the one hand, from your experience as member of the Board of Superintendence, how far the actual position of the libertos in question is from fulfilling the views contemplated by our respective Governments, and, on the other, in your character of Governor, how inconvenient their existence in this slave-holding Colony has proved, from the bad example which the irregularities and insubordination of some of them have held out to those around them, a circumstance which your Excellency has frequently complained of.

Another, though secondary, consideration in favour of their removal, is the saving which it would effect in the expenses now incurred by both Governments for the salary of the Curator, so long at least as no more negroes be liberated by the Mixed Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. JACKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 95.

The Secretary-General to the Provisional Government to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

(Translation.)

Sir,

March 23, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Visconde do Pinheiro, Governor-General, &c., directs me to acknowledge the receipt of the official letters which you recently addressed to him respecting the delivery of the libertos of the Mixed Commission, and to acquaint you that he wrote officially to the Government of Her Majesty on this subject under date of the 23rd ultimo.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) CARLOS POSSOLLO DE SOUZA.

No. 96.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Loanda, April 10, 1854.

1. THE Visconde do Pinheiro having given up the Government, it became necessary to reconstitute the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes. This, however, under the peculiar circumstances of the

Governor-General's resignation, has proved less easy of accomplishment than I could have anticipated.

2. Not to trouble your Lordship with a tedious recapitulation of what has occurred in this affair, I beg leave to refer you to the inclosed copy of a letter which I have felt it my duty to address to the President of the Provisional Government, premising only that the first step taken therein was his Excellency's invitation to me to meet him at the Board on the 28th ultimo, for the purpose of receiving him as the Portuguese member of it. On the 30th the communication from the Secretary-General of the Government was delivered to me, of which I have the honour to subjoin a translation. Before taking any official notice of it, I determined to try the effect of a previous explanation with the Bishop, the President of the Provisional Government, and to this end waited on him the same afternoon. From what then passed, I was the more disappointed at receiving on the 2nd instant, from that prelate, the letter which is also herewith inclosed in translation, and which left me, I conceived, no other alternative than to address his Excellency at once officially in the terms which will appear from the first inclosure in this despatch, and I have only to express my humble hope that they may meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 96.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the President of the Provisional Government.

Most Excellent and Right Reverend Sir,

Loanda, April 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, in which you tell me that your colleagues remain of the same opinion respecting the superintendence of the libertos, and which opinion they had previously expressed to me, and that, in consequence of this, your Excellency and your colleagues can determine nothing further in the business.

I had allowed myself to hope that the considerations to which I called your Excellency's attention at the private interview I had the honour of having with you at the palace on the 30th ultimo, and in which I pointed out that the subject in question was an international one, and that much inconvenience to the service of the two Crowns would necessarily arise from a suspension of the Board of Superintendence, would have confirmed your Excellency in the view which you yourself seemed, up to that time, to have entertained of this question; namely, that your Excellency, as President of the Provisional Government, was the proper person to represent the Governor in the Junta de Superintendencia.

In that hope I deferred taking any official notice of the communication, as I at that interview informed your Excellency it was my intention to do, which I received on the 30th March, signed by the Secretary-General of the Government, wherein I am informed that on the preceding day his Excellency the Right Rev. Bishop of this Diocese, Dom Joaquim Moreira Reis, the Juiz de Direito of this District, Dr. Antonio Faustino dos Santos Crespo, and the Acting Commandant of the Battalion of the Line, Major João Jacintho Tavares, members of the Provisional Government of this Province, took the required oath in conformity with Annex C to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, to serve as "member" of the Board of Superintendence, with the declaration that they together gave only one vote.

It now, however, becomes my duty, as Commissioner on the part of Her Britannic Majesty—and, as such, British member of the Board of Superintendence—to record officially what has passed with reference to this affair, as far as I am concerned, and to protest, as I hereby do, against the interpretation put upon the wording of the Treaty as communicated to me for my information, and its necessary effects, in the above-mentioned despatch of the Secretary-General.

The last public act of the Junta de Superintendencia was on the 11th February, 1854, and its minute is signed by the Visconde do Pinheiro and myself. I have no other knowledge of any change in the Government of this Province than what is common to all, viz., the Portaria published in the official "Boletim" dated 23rd March, in which I find, after an enumeration of the three individuals named to form a Provisional Government to succeed the Visconde do Pinheiro in the Government-General of the Province, the following words: "Of which Provisional Government the first-named is President."

It does not become me, a foreigner, to discuss the precise bearing or latitude which these words import. I believe that, in virtue of them, your Excellency presides alone at other Boards without the assistance of your colleagues, and such I presumed to be your own understanding of the matter, when Senhor Demony, in his character of Acting-Secretary to the Board, invited me, by your Excellency's desire, to meet you on the 28th March at 10 A.M., for the purpose of reconstituting the Junta de Superintendencia, and receiving your Excellency as the member thereof on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty.

I attended accordingly, and accompanied you to the Chamber of Session. Senhor Demony produced the minutes and we were proceeding to business, when in reply to an inquiry of mine, your Excellency expressed a doubt whether you had taken the oath required by Annex C. Then it was, that to be certain on this point, you sent for the Juiz de Direito. That gentleman did not make his appearance for a considerable time, but when he did, he made certain observations clearly indicating that he considered himself as constituting a part of the Board. This made it incumbent upon me to

come at once to an explanation, and to inquire whom I was to regard as my colleague at the Board.

My inquiry gave rise to a long conversation, and the meeting was eventually adjourned to the following day.

On this occasion, Major J. Tavares, the third member of the Provisional Government, attended, when much discussion ensued; seeing which, I proposed to withdraw, there being no Board installed, and the subject of it being, consequently, one in which it was not competent for me to take a part. Your Excellency, however, requested me to remain, and the whole business was brought to a close by the declaration announced in the letter above referred to, of the Secretary-General, viz., that the three members of the Provisional Government gave together but one vote, and by all three actually taking and causing to be registered by the Judge's clerk an oath in the words of the IIIrd Article of Annex C, with this very singular circumstance attending it, that the Juiz de Direito, being himself the principal magistrate of the place, in presence of whom that Article prescribes that the oath of which it treats shall be taken, administered it to himself; an irregularity, as it seems to me, against which I should have thought myself bound to protest, had I not considered the whole proceeding, from first to last, as illegal and invalid.

It is not for me, I repeat, to say who shall be my colleague at the Board of Superintendence; whether the President of the Provisional Government is to represent the Governor, or whether the Governor being absent, the 3rd Section of the Xth Article to Annex B becomes by analogy applicable to the solution of the present question, in which case the principal magistrate would be the person, that functionary being specifically named as the one who is, in order of succession, to supply the place of the Governor.

But what I must object, and can never consent to, till better advised and instructed by Her Majesty's Government, is, the introduction of more members than two into the Junta de Superintendencia (bearing always in mind, of course, the exceptional case foreseen by the latter part of the 1st Section of Annex C), as contrary to both the letter and spirit of the Treaty, which says expressly, "the Board shall consist of two members."

I trust that it is unnecessary for me to assure your Excellency, that in making these observations I do so with the utmost possible deference and respect to the Provisional Government, or to disclaim the slightest want of consideration on my part towards any of its members.

The step I am taking is purely an official and public act, and as such I cannot better terminate it than by reminding your Excellency of the inconveniences which must result from the non-reconstitution of the Junta de Superintendencia, among which the failing to examine and pass the quarterly accounts now awaiting settlement, is not the least, as your Excellency may convince yourself by referring to a despatch from the Visconde de Athoia to Sir R. Pakenham, dated 4th November, 1853, a copy of which was transmitted by me to the Visconde do Pinheiro on the 21st February, in which it is stated, among other reasons for declining to accede to a proposal made by Her Majesty's Government respecting the libertos, "that the Board of Superintendence watches, as it ought, over the execution of the Treaty, and the improvement of the liberated negroes."

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. JACKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

The Secretary-General to the Provisional Government to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

(Translation.)

Sir,

March 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to communicate to you for your information, and the necessary effects, that his Excellency the Right Reverend Bishop of this Diocese, Dom Joaquim Moreira Reis, the Juiz de Direito of this district, Dr. Antonio Faustino dos Santos Crespo, and Major João Jacintho Tavares, Commandant, *ad interim*, of the Battalion of the Line, members of the actual Provisional Government of this Province, took yesterday the required oath, in conformity with Annex C to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, to serve as member of the Board of Superintendence of the liberated negroes, with the declaration that they together gave only one vote.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CARLOS POSSOLLO DE SOUZA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 96.

The President of the Provisional Government to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

(Translation.)

Sir,

April 2, 1854.

IT was not possible for me to write to you sooner, and I beg and hope, therefore, for your indulgence.

With regard to the superintendence of the libertos, my colleagues remain of the same opinion, and which they expressed to you personally, and, in consequence of this, we can determine nothing further in the business.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

THE BISHOP OF ANGOLA AND OF CONGO.

No. 97.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 13, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th of March,* reporting the result of an investigation which you had made into the condition of the libertos, in consequence of your having reason to believe that they had been improperly treated under the care of the Director of Public Works at Loanda; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 98.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 14, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of April, inclosing copies of the correspondence which had taken place between yourself and the President of the Provisional Government of Angola, respecting the reconstruction of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, which became necessary from the retirement of the Visconde do Pinheiro; and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 99.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, April 16, 1854.

1. MY appeal to the President of the Provisional Government having failed, and my letter to his Excellency relative to the reconstitution of the Board of Superintendence, dated the 3rd instant, remaining without any reply, the Curator has forwarded to me, as one member of that Board, a copy of the quarterly report which he had prepared, and which in his letter inclosing it he says waits only its reinstallation to be presented. Of these papers I have the honour to transmit herewith translations.

2. The statements now made by several of the libertos, as compared with their more formal depositions taken previously by the Curator and myself, show, first, the sort of influence which weighs upon them; and secondly, the little dependence that can be placed on what they say from one day to another, and which makes it next to impossible to arrive at the truth—a difficulty so great as to be not easily conceivable by any one unaccustomed to deal with them.

3. Should the present state of this Colonial Government last, the impracticability of transacting any business in connection with the Board of Superintendence would be a serious evil; for instance, were the Curatorship in less disinterested, or more dependent, hands than now hold the office, it would necessarily cease, or be at least, suspended, for the want of the requisite funds out of which to pay the salary. As it is, Senhor Demony has very handsomely undertaken to continue his services as heretofore,

* No. 94.

till such time as the appointment of a new Governor shall take place, which, it would seem, could hardly be long delayed after the return of the Visconde de Pinheiro to the metropolis; even should it not have already been made in anticipation thereof.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 99.

The Curator of Liberated Africans to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Loanda, April 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, as Member of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, a copy of my quarterly report of the present year relative to those same negroes, of whom I am the curator; which report I hold ready for presentation to the Board so soon as it shall be installed.

I also have to acquaint you that I have solicited from the Provisional Government an order for the liberto Feliz Calombe to be taken to the Military Hospital, and to be there carefully attended to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 99.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes that in the course of the quarter ending this day, I have frequently visited the libertos placed at the establishment of Public Works, and that on my last visit, this day, I found,

1. That they were employed in the following manner:—

In the trade of blacksmith and locksmith—Elizio.

In the trade of stone-mason—Vicente, Germano Dalla, Lourenço Miluange.

In the trade of cooper—Pedro de Loanda.

In the trade of carpenter—Agostinho Caculle, Jacintho Ganga, Marcos Ganga.

In the trade of tinman—Feliz Calombo.

In manual labour—Alvaro Bunge, Matheus, Sebastião de Congo.

2. That the liberto Feliz Calombo was still suffering in his health from a cough, and I was informed that on that account he was doing little work.

3. The liberto Lourenço Miluange told me that of late he had not been employed in carrying machillas.

4. The liberto Elizio also told me that of late he had not been sent on errands by his master.

5. The liberto Germano Dalla told me that he did not complain of being obliged to carry machillas.

6. That clothes have recently been distributed among the libertos.

7. That each of the libertos declared to me that he had no representation to make; and that their food was abundant.

(Signed) G. C. DEMONY, *Curator.*

St. Paul de Loanda, March 31, 1854.

No. 100.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 26, 1855.)

My Lord,

Loanda, November 8, 1854.

1. THE Provisional Government which, since the return of Visconde do Pinheiro to Lisbon, has administered the affairs of this province, having been succeeded by Major José Rodriguez Coelho do Amaral, who assumed the functions of Acting Governor on the 18th ultimo, the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes has been reconstituted, and I have the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, a translated copy of the minute of its proceedings on the 6th instant, when, the requisite oath having been previously administered to his Excellency, he took his seat with me at the Board as member thereof, on the part of His Most Faithful Majesty.

2. On this occasion the Curator presented his three last quarterly reports of the state of the libertos under his charge, dated respectively 31st March, 30th June, and 30th September, 1854. The first of these was transmitted in my despatch of the 16th April. I have now the honour of inclosing translated copies of the two last: neither of them require any more particular notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 100.

Minute of Session of the Board of Superintendence of November 6, 1854.

(Translation.)

ON this 6th day of the month of November, in the City of Loanda in the Province of Angola, and at the Palace of Government of that Province; Present—His Excellency the Acting Governor-General the most illustrious Senhor José Rodrigues Coelho do Amaral, Sir George Jackson, K.C.H., Her Britannic Majesty's Commissioner in the Mixed Portuguese and British Commission, established in this city in virtue of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, concluded between Portugal and Great Britain, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, his Excellency the Governor-General declared that he had already taken the oath prescribed by the IIIrd Article of Annex C to the aforesaid Treaty, as a member of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, and thus that Board of Superintendence was constituted, consisting, viz., of his Excellency the Governor-General and Sir George Jackson, K.C.H., British Commissioner in the Mixed Commission conformably to the provisions of the aforesaid Annex C. Sir George Jackson then declared that the sittings of this Board had been interrupted since the retirement of his Excellency the Governor-General Visconde do Pinheiro, because a Provisional Government composed of three members having succeeded that Governor, these three functionaries proposed to act at the Board with him, the Commissioner giving only a single vote, to which he, the British Commissioner did not assent, considering such a proceeding to be contrary to the stipulations of the IIIrd Article of Annex C, in that part which treats of the composition of the Board, as he explained in his letter of the 3rd April of this year, which he addressed to his Excellency the Right Reverend the Bishop of the Diocese, President of the said Provisional Government, it having been impossible for him to make his protest before the Board itself, inasmuch as that Board was not constituted.

The Curator reported that the liberto Pedro de Loanda was taken into the hospital on the 25th ultimo, to be cured of a disease which he had contracted, and that being recovered he returned to the establishment of Public Works on the 4th instant. He further stated that the liberto Vincente was now in the hospital, on account of a similar disorder.

(Signed) J. R. C. DO AMARAL, GEO. JACKSON.
Acting Governor-General.
G. C. DEMONY, *Acting Secretary.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 100.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes that the negroes placed at the establishment of Public Works have been visited by me and my assistant several times in the course of the quarter which ends this day, and to report—

1. That they were employed in the following manner:—

In the trade of stonemason—Germano Dalla, Lourenço Miluange, Vicente.
In the trade of tinman—Feliz Calombe.
In the trade of carpenter—Agostinho Caculo, Marcos Ganga, Jacintho Ganga.
In the trade of black and locksmith—Elizio.
In the trade of cooper—Pedro de Loanda.
In manual labour—Alvaro Bunge, Sebastião de Congo, Mattheus.

2. That the liberto Feliz Calombe, after having been some time under treatment at my request in the hospital, returned to the establishment fully recovered, and he is now looking very well, and the doctor has stated that he has no bad symptoms.

3. That the libertos made no complaints respecting their treatment, and that the apprentices to the trade of stonemason, Vicente; and of carpenter, Agostinho Caculo, Marcos Ganga, and Jacintho Ganga, only asked that they might be borne on the list of the establishment to receive wages. I have further to inform the Board—

4. That the liberto Germano Dalla, having run away from the establishment on the 20th April last, taking his clothes with him, was brought back to it by a soldier on the 25th, which being reported to me on the 27th instant, I went to inquire from the said liberto the reasons of his running away, when he only said that it was in consequence of his having failed to appear when the bell rang; that during the time of his absence he was supplied with food by the other libertos employed in manual labour at the well; and upon asking him what he had done with his clothes, as he was almost in a state of nudity, and what had happened to him as he had hardly the use of one leg, he answered that he had sold his clothes to procure food, and that his lameness was caused by a blow which

another liberto gave him at the time when he was retaken, but he could not tell which of them it was that struck him. I caused him to be taken immediately to the hospital, where he still is, and there it was ascertained that the wound on his leg did not proceed from any blow, but from a disorder which he had contracted.

5. That the liberto Pedro de Loanda had also been in the hospital since the 13th instant, under treatment for the same disorder.

St. Paul de Loanda, June 30, 1854.

(Signed)

GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY,

Curator of Liberated Negroes.

Inclosure 3 in No. 100.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes, that the negroes placed at the establishment of Public Works have been visited by me and my assistant several times in the course of the quarter which ends this day, and that I found—

1. That they were employed in the following manner:—

In the trade of stonemason—Vicente, Lourenço Miluange.

In the trade of tinman—Feliz Calombe.

In the trade of carpenter—Agostinho Caculo, Marcus Ganga, Jacintho Ganga.

In the trade of black and locksmith—Elizio.

In the trade of cooper—Pedro de Loanda.

In manual labour—Matheus, Alvaro Bunge.

In paving—Sebastião de Congo. This liberto now applies himself to this trade, but we cannot reckon on his persevering in it.

2. That the liberto Germano Dalla is still in the hospital, but likely soon to recover and be able to leave it.

3. That the liberto Feliz Calombe has still a sickly appearance.

4. That the liberto Pedro de Loanda, who at the time of the last Quarterly Report was in the hospital, returned from thence on the 25th August to the establishment of Public Works quite recovered, but that on the 21st instant he was again taken there, and is now under treatment for a disorder which he had contracted.

St. Paul de Loanda, September 30, 1854.

(Signed)

GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY,

Curator of Liberated Negroes.

No. 101.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
March 29, 1855.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, December 30, 1854.

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a translated extract from the Minute of Session of the Board of Superintendence of the 16th instant, accepting the resignation of the present Curator of Liberated Negroes, Senhor Guilherme Cypriano Demony, after a service of more than nine years, during which his attention to the libertos under his charge, and his readiness in carrying out the views of the Board, have been unremitting.

2. The gentleman selected by them as his successor, Senhor Constantino Antonio Vares Ferro, enjoyed the confidence of the late Captain Pedro Alexandrino da Cunha, when in the government of this province, which, as your Lordship is doubtless aware, he administered in a way to merit not only the approbation of his own Sovereign, but that also of Her Majesty's Government in everything relating to the Slave Trade. The Board of Superintendence, therefore, thought they could not make a better choice, more especially as Senhor Constantino Antonio Vares Ferro had formerly served for several months as Acting Secretary to the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission at this place.

3. The required oath as Curator has this day, therefore, been administered to Senhor Constantino Antonio Vares Ferro, and he will forthwith enter on the duties of his office accordingly.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure in No. 101.

Extract from Minute of Session of the Board of Superintendence of the 16th December, 1854.

A PETITION of the Curator of Liberated Negroes was then read, praying for his discharge from that office in consequence of his being about to return to the metropolis for the recovery of his health, and it not, therefore, being possible for him to continue to serve beyond the 31st instant, when the Board, taking into consideration the reasons stated by the Curator, granted him his discharge as required.

Two petitions were then presented, the one from Augusto Guedes 'Coutinho Garrido, and the other from Senhor Constantino Antonio Vares Ferro, applying for the office of Curator; and while either of them was, in the opinion of the Board, eligible for the situation in question, their choice fell on Senhor Constantino Antonio Vares Ferro, who is to enter on his duties as Curator on the 1st January next.

By an express resolution of the members of the Board a declaration is inserted in the Minute to the effect that the actual Curator, Senhor Guilherme Cypriano Demony, has constantly served with much intelligence and the greatest zeal; it being with great regret that the Board has granted him his required discharge, in consequence of the weighty reasons alleged by him,

PROCEEDINGS
OF
VICE-ADMIRALTY COURTS.

ST. HELENA AND SIERRA LEONE.

No. 102.

Her Majesty's Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

St. Helena, June 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship, an abstract of the particulars of the case of a barque called the "*Mellidon*," taken in the Bay of Cabinda, by Henry Need, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "*Linnet*," and condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony, on the 25th ultimo, for being engaged in the Slave Trade.

This vessel was without either papers or colours, and was therefore condemned as a vessel not entitled to the protection of any flag.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NATHL. SOLOMON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 102.

Abstract of the case of the barque "Mellidon."

BARQUE "*Mellidon*," nation unknown.

Master, Charles Cabalier.

Without papers or colours.

Crew, with the exception of 3 persons and the master (foreigners), quitted the vessel at the time of the seizure.

Detained on the 30th day of April, 1854, in Cabinda Bay, on the west coast of Africa, by Henry Need, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "*Linnet*."

Had large open hatches, instead of close hatches; a larger quantity of water in casks than was requisite for the consumption of the crew of the vessel as a merchant-vessel; an extraordinary quantity of water-casks, to wit, 90 large leaguers and pipes; a large cooking apparatus, fitted for boilers of an unusual size; a large number of bricks, and a quantity of mortar of the description usually found on board of slave-vessels; an extraordinary quantity of biscuit and salt provisions, beyond what might probably be requisite for the use of the crew of the vessel as a merchant-vessel; an extraordinary quantity of firewood, in billets of the description generally used on board of slave-vessels; and a large quantity of gunpowder, which is not usual in merchant-vessels.

Arrived at St. Helena, with the master and 3 of the crew of the said vessel, on the 15th day of May, 1854, under the charge of Mr. Ryall, Acting Second Master of Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet."

Adjudicated on the 25th May, 1854.

Condemned and ordered to be broken up and sold.

Burthen, new measurement, 266 tons.

(Signed)

JNO. N. FIRMIN, *Registrar*.

Inclosure 2 in No. 102.

Judgment in the case of the barque "Mellidon."

In the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena.

AT a Court holden at James Town, in the Island of St. Helena, on Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, before the Worshipful Nathaniel Solomon, Esquire, Judge and Commissary of the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena, lawfully constituted and appointed;

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen against a certain barque or vessel (nation unknown) called the "Mellidon," whereof Charles Cabalier was master, her tackle, apparel and furniture, and the cargo laden therein, seized as liable to forfeiture by Henry Need, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet."

In pain of parties cited not appearing, Knipe returned monition duly executed, and referred to the affidavits of Charles Biggs Ryall, Acting Second Master of and belonging to Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet," and Edward Leggett, Gunner of and belonging to Her Majesty's said sloop, heretofore exhibited and remaining in the Registry of this Court.

The Judge, at his petition, having heard the said affidavits read, on his motion as Counsel on behalf of Her Majesty, by interlocutory decree pronounced the said barque or vessel "Mellidon" (not being justly entitled to claim the protection of the flag of any State or nation) to have been at the time of the seizure thereof equipped for and engaged in the Slave Trade, contrary to the provisions of the Act 3 Vict., cap. 73, and as such or otherwise subject and liable to forfeiture, and condemned the said barque or vessel "Mellidon," her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo laden therein, as forfeited to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, accordingly;

And further pronounced that the said cargo should be sold, and that the said barque or vessel (not having been taken into Her Majesty's service) should be broken up and be entirely demolished, and that the materials thereof should be publicly sold in separate parts, as in and by law in such case made and provided.

(Signed)

JNO. N. FIRMIN, *Registrar*.

No. 103.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received September 6.)

Sir,

Admiralty, September 5, 1854.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, a Return of vessels captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade and adjudicated by the Vice-Admiralty Court at St. Helena, during the half-year ending the 30th June, 1854; and also a similar Return from the Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone, for the same date.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 103.

RETURN of VESSELS captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and adjudicated by the Vice-Admiralty Court at St. Helena, from 1st January to 30th June, 1854.

Name of Vessel.	Class.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured.	Property seized.	Seizer.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number of Slaves forfeited.	Total Number emancipated.	Tonnage.			Declaral part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	Statute under which Sentence was passed, or Prosecution instituted.	Whether the property condemned has been sold or converted, and whether any part remains unsold, and in whose hands the proceeds remain.	Remarks.
												Foreign, according to the papers.	Old ad-measure.	New ad-measure.				
Melidon ...	Barque ...	None	Chas. Cahalier	April 30 1854	In Cabinda Bay	Vessel and cargo	Henry Nod, Esq., Commander, H. M. sloop "Linnæa"	1854	None	...	...	...	200	...	Forfeiture	2 & 3 Vict. c. 73	Vessel broken up and demolished. Material, stores and cargo sold by public auction. Net proceeds paid into the Commissariat Chest.	

(Signed)

JNO. N. FIRMIN, Registrar.

Inclosure 2 in No 103.

RETURN of VESSELS captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and adjudicated by the Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone, from 1st January to 30th June, 1854.

Name of Vessel.	Class.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of Seizure.	Where Captured.	Property seized.	Seizor.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total Number emancipated.	Tonnage.			Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	Statute under which Sentence was passed, or prosecution instituted.	Whether the property captured has been sold or converted, and whether any part remains unsold, and in whose hands the proceeds remain.	Remarks.
												Foreign papers.	Old and measurement.	English measurement.				
Manuelita ..	...	No flag ...	Unknown	May 23 1854	Rio Pongas	Schooner and stores	Reginald McDonald, Commander of H.M. sloop-of-war "Porpoise".	June 5 1854	None			..	Under Statute 8 & 9 Vic., c. 89. 115 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons.	New measurement. 119 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons.	Forfeiture	2 & 3 Vic., c. 73.	The bulk of the vessel was broken up and entirely demolished. The materials and stores sold by public auction. Proceeds at present in the hands of the Marshal.	This vessel was found fully equipped for the Slave Trade. The only papers found on board were two letters from the supposed captain to the mate of the vessel.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, Registrar.

No. 104.

Her Majesty's Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 26.)

My Lord,

St. Helena, November 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship abstracts of the particulars of the cases of two vessels adjudicated in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony on the 26th ultimo, for being engaged in the Slave Trade.

These vessels were both launches, felucca-rigged, taken by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," off Shark's Point, in the River Congo, on the west coast of Africa; one on the 25th, and the other on the 27th of August last, equipped for the Slave Trade. They had neither papers nor colours on board to show them to be entitled to the protection of any flag.

They having been destroyed by their captors, in consequence of being in an unfit state to be sent to any port for adjudication, were pronounced to have been liable to forfeiture at the time of seizure, and certain portions thereof respectively, which had been sent to St. Helena for adjudication, were condemned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NATHL. SOLOMON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 104.

Abstract of the case of a Launch, name unknown.

LAUNCH, felucca-rigged, name and nation unknown.

Master, unknown.

Without papers or colours.

Crew consisted of 15 persons (Cabinda men); they were landed at their own request on Shark's Point in the River Congo.

Detained on the 25th day of August, 1854, off Shark's Point in the River Congo, on the west coast of Africa, by John McDowall Skene, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel."

Had on board a large quantity of gunpowder in kegs, about fifty iron bars of the description used for forming grating or open hatches, a quantity of cloth in bales, commonly called trade cloth, and a number of shackles of the description usually found on board of vessels engaged in the Slave Trade.

Was surveyed by order of Commander Skene, and being found in an unfit state to be sent to any port for adjudication, was set on fire and totally destroyed.

The foremast of the vessel was brought to St. Helena for adjudication.

Adjudicated on the 26th day of October, 1854.

Vessel pronounced to have been liable to forfeiture and condemnation at the time of seizure.

The foremast condemned.

Burthen, 26 tons.

Measurement: Length, 45 feet; breadth, 11 feet; depth, 5 feet.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, Registrar.

Inclosure 2 in No. 104.

Judgment in the case of a Launch, name unknown.

In the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena.

AT a Court holden at James Town, in the Island of St. Helena, on Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, before the Worshipful Nathaniel Solomon, Esquire, Judge and Commissary of the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena, lawfully constituted and appointed;

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen against a certain felucca-rigged launch, name and nation unknown, seized as liable to forfeiture by John McDowall Skene, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel."

In pain of parties cited not appearing, Knipe returned monition duly executed, and referred to the affidavit of Hastings St. John De Robeck, Second Lieutenant of and belonging to Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," heretofore exhibited and remaining in the Registry of this Court.

The Judge, at his petition, having heard the said affidavit read, on his motion as Counsel on behalf of Her Majesty, by interlocutory decree pronounced the said launch or vessel, name unknown (not being justly entitled to claim the protection of the flag of any State or nation), to have been, at the time of the seizure thereof, equipped for and engaged in the Slave Trade, contrary to the provisions of the Act of Parliament made and passed in the 3rd year of Her Majesty, cap. 73, and as

such or otherwise subject and liable to forfeiture, and condemned the foremast of and belonging to the said launch or vessel, and brought to St. Helena, as forfeited to Our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, accordingly.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, *Registrar*.

Inclosure 3 in No. 104.

Abstract of the case of a Launch, name unknown.

LAUNCH, felucca-rigged, name and nation unknown.

Master, unknown.

Without papers or colours.

Crew consisted of nine persons (Cabinda men); they were landed at their own request on Shark's Point, in the River Congo.

Detained on the 27th day of August, 1854, off Shark's Point, in the River Congo, on the west coast of Africa, by John McDowall Skene, Esq., Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel."

Had on board about 100 kegs of gunpowder, an extraordinary large number of water-casks in shoeks or packs, and an extraordinary large quantity of billets of firewood, of the description usually found on board of vessels engaged in the Slave Trade.

Was surveyed by order of Commander Skene, and being found in an unfit state to be sent to any port for adjudication, was set on fire and totally destroyed.

The after-thwart of the vessel was brought to St. Helena for adjudication.

Adjudicated on the 26th day of October, 1854.

Vessel pronounced to have been liable to forfeiture and condemnation at the time of seizure.

The thwart condemned.

Burthen, 24 tons.

Measurement: Length, 44 feet; breadth, 10 feet; depth, 5 feet $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, *Registrar*.

Inclosure 4 in No. 104.

Judgment in the case of a Launch, name unknown.

In the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena.

AT A Court, holden at James Town, in the Island of St. Helena, on Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, before the worshipful Nathaniel Solomon, Esq., Judge and Commissary of the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena, lawfully constituted and appointed;

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen against a certain felucca-rigged launch, name and nation unknown, seized as liable to forfeiture by John McDowall Skene, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel."

In pain of parties cited not appearing, Knipe returned monition duly executed and referred to the affidavit of Hastings St. John de Robeck, Second Lieutenant of and belonging to Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," heretofore exhibited and remaining in the Registry of this Court.

The Judge, at his petition, having heard the said affidavit read, on his motion as Counsel on behalf of Her Majesty, by interlocutory decree pronounced the said launch or vessel, name unknown (not being justly entitled to claim the protection of the flag of any state or nation), to have been at the time of the seizure thereof equipped for and engaged in the Slave Trade, contrary to the provisions of the Act of Parliament made and passed in the third year of Her Majesty, cap. 73, and as such or otherwise subject and liable to forfeiture, and condemned the after thwart of and belonging to the said launch or vessel, and brought to St. Helena, as forfeited to Our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, accordingly.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, *Registrar*.

No. 105.

Judge Solomon to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 24, 1855.)

My Lord,

St. Helena, December 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship an abstract of the particulars of the case of the British brigantine "Newport," of Jersey, condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony, on the 20th ultimo, for being engaged in the Slave Trade. This vessel was detained by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," on the 21st September, on suspicion that her cargo was intended to be employed in the aiding and abetting of the Slave Trade. The vessel was brought to this Colony by Lieutenant de Robeck, of the "Philomel," with the master and two of the crew of the "Newport." A monition was granted on the affidavit of the prize-officer, and a claim was put in by the master on behalf of himself, and Messrs. Le Sucur, of Jersey, for the vessel, and of Messrs. Pinto, Perez and Co., of London, merchants, for the

cargo, but no libel was filed. Independently of the nature of the cargo itself, which (besides 100 packs of staves with hoops and nails for converting them into casks), consisted of such goods as are usually selected for barter on the west coast of Africa, in carrying on the Slave Trade, the vessel and cargo were consigned to one Francisco Antonio Flores, a notorious slave-dealer at St. Paul de Loanda and Ambriz, by the house of Pinto, Perez and Co., of London. The fact of M. Flores having no other vocation than that of a slave-dealer, was positively asserted in the affidavit of Lieutenant de Robeck, which was attempted to be confirmed by the copy of a correspondence between Commander Skene and Sir George Jackson, the English member of the Mixed Commission Court at Loanda; but I deemed this inadmissible, as I considered that Commander Skene should have forwarded the original letter of Sir George Jackson, properly authenticated, which might have been done, and in such a case it was desirable to have the best evidence that could be procured. The affidavit of Lieutenant de Robeck also stated that Flores, at the instance of Her Majesty's Government, had been ordered to leave the Portuguese territory on the west coast of Africa, by a Decree of the King Regent of Portugal, in consequence of his persisting in carrying on the Slave Trade; and in support of this statement, the proctor for the seizor produced two documents, severally purporting to be the copy of a copy of a translated extract of a communication to the British Minister at Lisbon, from the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and a copy of a copy of a translation of the Portaria which decreed the expulsion of M. Flores from the Province of Angola. The reception of these documents was objected to by the claimant's proctor, and I felt bound to reject evidence so defective and unauthenticated. The affidavit of Lieutenant de Robeck, in respect to the notoriety of Flores as a slave-dealer, as well as the fact of his having been ordered to leave the Portuguese territory, in consequence of his connexion with the Slave Trade, remained uncontradicted, and the master of the vessel professed to know nothing of Flores, but that he was directed to place himself, his ship, and cargo at his disposal, on his arrival at Loanda or Ambriz, which was confirmed by the perusal of the shipper's letters found on board.

The defence consisted in denying that the cargo was intended to be employed in any illicit traffic, or that the owners of the vessel, or the shippers of the cargo, had any guilty knowledge of the intention of Flores to employ it in the Slave Trade; that the cargo consisted of goods regularly entered on the manifest, and cleared out from the custom-house at London; that the ship's papers were all correct, and properly authenticated; that the shippers, Messrs. Pinto, Perez and Co., were respectable merchants in London, and not likely to engage in any mercantile transaction of an illicit nature; and that the brokers, Messrs. Banner, Brothers, & Co., were too well-known to be supposed capable of mixing themselves up with any Slave Trade speculations; that the several Acts of Parliament for regulating the customs and the trade and navigation of British vessels had been complied with, and that the certificate of a bond having been given that the 100 packs of staves or casks should be used only for the purposes of lawful commerce, was not required by law, and that the legal character of the vessel and cargo and the voyage was fully proved by the ship's papers.

Lieutenant de Robeck also stated in his affidavit that soon after the arrival of a similar cargo consigned to Flores by a vessel called the "*Deslandes*," the month previously to the arrival of the "*Newport*" on the coast, two full cargoes of slaves were shipped by Flores from Mazula Bay, one in an American vessel, and the other in a vessel of which the name and nation are not known. In the correspondence found on board the "*Newport*" this is partly corroborated by a reference made in one of the letters to the "*Deslandes*," and the cargo sent by her; one of the packets found on board, addressed to M. Francisco Antonio Flores, at St. Paul de Loanda or Ambriz, contained invoices and bills of lading of the cargo per "*Newport*;" also invoices and bills of lading of goods shipped by Pinto, Perez, and Co., for Flores, *via* Lisbon, per steamers "*Douro*" and "*Gannett*;" and also an invoice of goods shipped per "*Queen of the West*," for Flores, *via* New York.

In these transactions a person of the name of Garrido appears to have acted as agent for Flores; and this man is said also to have been actively engaged in the Slave Trade for many years, until he became bankrupt, and to have been since employed going to and from Africa, London, New York, and the Havana,

transacting business in connexion with that trade, as an agent or partner of Flores. The business carried on between Pinto, Perez and Co., and Flores, through the medium of Garrido, appears to have been very extensive; and it is difficult to conceive that they could be ignorant of the character and pursuits of a party with whom they had such extensive and frequent dealings: consequently, in shipping the goods, and consigning them to a person who has been for years a notorious slave-dealer, who has been represented as such by the British authorities on the coast of Africa to Her Majesty's Government, and by Her Majesty's Government, through the British Minister at Lisbon, to the Portuguese Government, from whom a Royal Decree was obtained for his expulsion from the Portuguese territories in Africa, there must have been such a guilty knowledge of the purposes to which those goods would be applied in the hands of such a man, as appeared to me to bring the case within the meaning of the Act of 5 Geo. IV, c. 113. Whether the master or the crew of the "*Newport*" were at all aware of the objects with which the cargo was shipped, I had no means of ascertaining, and I certainly did not think that any legal evidence was available at St. Helena, to prove their guilty knowledge of the transaction, and being aware that they would be liable to answer any charge which might hereafter be brought against them, or the remainder of the crew whom Commander Skene had detained, I did not deem it necessary to include them in the sentence.

I therefore pronounced the vessel to be forfeited to Her Majesty, and the shippers of the cargo liable to the penalties due by law: that is, double the value of the cargo; and that the cargo should be held in deposit until the penalty and costs should be paid. Against this sentence an appeal has been asserted, and security for costs given, conformably to the rules and regulations established for the practice of Vice-Admiralty Courts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NATHL. SOLOMON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 105.

Abstract of the case of the brigantine "Newport."

BRITISH brigantine "*Newport*."

Master, Charles Philip Hocquard.

Crew found on board, 7 British subjects, including master and 1 black man, native of Accra.

Detained on the 21st day of September, 1854, off the west coast of Africa, in latitude 7° 42' south, and longitude 12° 14' east, by John McDowall Skene, Esq., Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "*Philomel*."

Had 100 water-casks in packs or shooks, for which no certificate was produced from the custom-house at the place from which the said brigantine had cleared outwards, stating that sufficient security had been given by the owners that the said water-casks should be used only for lawful purposes; also a sufficient number of water-casks for containing water for the use of the crew of the vessel; 1,000 empty demijohns, capable of containing from 4 to 5 gallons of water each; 25 cases of muskets, and other articles of the description usually imported on the west coast of Africa, for barter in carrying on the Slave Trade. The whole of the cargo consigned to Francisco Antonio Flores, a notorious slave-dealer at Ambriz, or St. Paul de Loanda.

Arrived at St. Helena, on the 8th October, 1854, under the charge of Hastings St. John de Robeck, Second Lieutenant of Her Majesty's sloop "*Philomel*."

Claim put in by master on behalf of himself, the owners of the vessel, and the shippers of the cargo, but no libel prayed.

Adjudicated on the 20th November, 1854.

Vessel condemned, and the shippers of the goods, wares, and merchandize, pronounced to be liable to the penalties due by law: that is to say, the sum of 12,915*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, double the value of the said goods, wares, and merchandize, and the said goods, wares, and merchandize to be held in deposit until the penalty is paid.

Burthen by register, 106 $\frac{435}{3500}$ tons.

Had on board the following papers:—

No. 1. Not forwarded to the Vice-Admiralty Court by the seizer, but stated in the affidavit of Lieutenant de Robeck to be an official letter, and delivered as addressed, to "Illmo. Snr. Administrador da Alfandega de Ambriz," from the Consul-General in London.

No. 2. A sealed packet, containing letters, invoices, and bills of lading, viz.—

Invoice of goods per "*Newport*," 8th June, 1854, 6,457*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*

Invoice of goods per steamer "*Gannett*," 3,471*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

Two bills of lading, per ditto.

Two bills of lading, per steamer "*Douro*."

Portuguese letter of 6th June, to M. Flores, from Pinto, Perez and Co.

Ditto, of 5th May, to M. Flores, from A. Garrido.

Ditto, of 12th May, to M. Flores from A. Garrido.

Ditto, of 8th June, to M. Flores from Pinto, Perez and Co

Two bills of lading of goods per "*Newport*."

Portuguese letter of 26th May, to A. Garrido, from Pinto, Perez and Co.

Ditto of 27th May, to A. Garrido from A. J. d'Oliveira.

This packet was certified on the envelope to have been opened by Commander Skene, to ascertain further information relative to the Slave Trade, and re-sealed with his crest.

No. 3. Not forwarded to the Vice-Admiralty Court, but stated in the affidavit to be an official letter, and delivered as addressed, to Louis Lions, Lloyds Agent at St. Paul de Loanda.

No. 4. Not forwarded to the Vice-Admiralty Court, but stated in the affidavit to have been delivered as addressed, to Captain Carwithen, of the "*Aurora*" coal brig, of London, at St. Paul de Loanda.

No. 5. A letter from the shippers, Pinto, Perez and Co., to Captain Hocquard, dated London, 9th June, 1854, instructing him to proceed to Ambriz in Angola, west coast of Africa, and there deliver his despatches to M. Francisco Antonio Flores, or to his agent, to consign himself to him, and follow his instructions in every respect.

No. 6. Brown paper parcel containing newspapers.

No. 7. Copy of charter-party, between the owners of brigantine "*Newport*" and Messrs. Pinto Perez and Co., dated 21st April, 1854.

No. 8. Manifest.

No. 9. Consisting of four documents in Portuguese language, from the Portuguese Consulate-General in London.

No. 10. Consisting of four custom-house papers.

No. 11. Custom-house license, and certificate to carry arms, dated 23rd September, 1845.

No. 12. Custom-house license, and certificate for a boat, dated 30th June, 1847.

No. 13. Two bills of lading, dated 6th June, 1854.

No. 14. Certificate of British registry, dated 25th September, 1845.

No. 15. Apprentice indenture.

No. 16. Copy of articles of agreement between the captain and crew of the "*Newport*."

No. 17. Copy of ditto, with scale of provisions.

No. 18. Cargo-book.

No. 19. Consisting of—

Receipt for lights, duties, &c.

Portuguese document from custom-house.

Letter from Banner, Brothers and Co., to M. Le Sueur, dated 12th April, 1854.

Customs certificate, dated 19th April, 1854.

Receipt for Dover harbour-duty, dated 11th April, 1854.

Receipt for Ramsgate harbour-duty, dated 11th April, 1854.

Receipt for light duties, &c., dated 3rd June, 1854.

Certificate for clearing outwards, dated 8th June, 1854.

Letter from Preston and Watson, of Liverpool, to Captain Hocquard, dated 13th April, 1854.

Certificate for clearance inwards, dated 19th April, 1854.

Certificate for clearance inwards, dated April 1854.

Vioualling-bill, dated 8th September, 1853, with cocket-card, and searcher's list of spirits prefixed.

Crew list, dated 10th August, 1854.

Copy of ditto, unsigned.

7 blank forms of account for wages.

No. 20. Blank form of account of crew.

The following were put into Court by the Captain, annexed to his claim, on behalf of himself and the owners and shippers:

(A.) Certificate from Commander Skene, of the seizure of the English schooner "*Newport*," with the list of ship's papers, numbered from 1 to 20, dated 21st September.

No. 21. A memorandum of charter-party, London, dated 19th August, 1853.

No. 22. Note to Captain Hocquard, from F. Le Sueur, dated 17th August, 1853.

No. 23 to No. 33, inclusive, consisting of notes and letters from various parties to Captain Hocquard, dated severally from 31st August, 1853, to the 14th June, 1854.

No. 34 to No. 39, inclusive, consisting of various shipping orders, dated 19th May to 7th June, 1854.

Nos. 40, 41, 42. Railway delivery tickets.

No. 43. Shipping order for 80 puncheon packs, dated 5th June, 1854.

Annexed to the affidavit of Chief Officer and Boatswain, Thomas Delamare, 3 log-books, marked A, B, and C.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, Registrar.

Inclosure 2 in No. 105.

Judgment in the case of the brigantine "Newport."

In the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena.

AT a Court holden on Monday, the twentieth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, before the Worshipful Nathaniel Solomon, Esquire, Judge and Commissary of the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena, lawfully constituted and appointed;

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen against the British brigantine or vessel called the "*Newport*," whereof Charles Philip Hocquard was master, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo laden therein, seized as liable to forfeiture by John Mc Dowall Skene, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "*Philomel*," and against Francis Le Sueur, Philip Le Sueur, John Le Sueur, and all others intervening and claiming the said brigantine or vessel, and the cargo laden on board thereof.

Knipe returned monition duly executed, and prayed the Judge to reject the claim of Charles Philip Hocquard, given on behalf of himself and of Francis Le Sueur, Philip Le Sueur, and John Le Sueur, for the said brigantine or vessel, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and on behalf of Pinto, Perez and Co., for the said cargo, and to pronounce the said brigantine or vessel to have been, at the time of the seizure thereof, engaged in the Slave Trade, and that the said brigantine or vessel, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo laden therein, are subject and liable to forfeiture to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, and to condemn the same accordingly, and further to pronounce for the penalties due by law, and to condemn the said Charles Philip Hocquard, the master of the said brigantine or vessel, and the said Francis Le Sueur, Philip Le Sueur, and John Le Sueur, the owners thereof, and also the said Pinto, Perez and Co., the shippers and owners of the said cargo, in such penalties and in costs.

Fowler prayed the Judge to admit the said claim, and to restore the said brigantine or vessel, and cargo, as claimed, and to condemn John Mc Dowall Skene, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," the seizer, in all such costs, charges, demurrage, and expenses as have arisen, or shall or may arise by reason of the said seizure, and in the costs of suit.

The Judge having heard the proofs read, and the proctors on both sides, rejected the said claim, and by interlocutory decree pronounced the said brigantine or vessel "*Newport*" to have been at the time of the seizure thereof engaged in the Slave Trade, contrary to the provisions of the Act of 5 Geo. IV, c. 113, and as such or otherwise, subject and liable to forfeiture to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, and condemned the same accordingly. The Judge, moreover, pronounced for the penalties due under the provisions of the said Act, that is to say, that the sum of twelve thousand nine hundred and fifteen pounds, seventeen shillings and six pence, is due by Pinto, Perez and Co., the shippers and owners of the goods, wares, and merchandize, laden on board of the said brigantine or vessel, to wit, double the value of the said goods, wares, and merchandize, and condemned the said Pinto, Perez, and Co. in such penalties accordingly, and in costs, and that the said goods, wares, and merchandize should be held in deposit until the said penalty and costs be paid.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, *Registrar*.

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA STATION.

No. 106.

Commander Skene to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received May 30.)

Sir,

“Philomel,” off the River Congo, March 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on my arrival off the River Congo, on the 21st instant, I found the United States' brig-of-war “Perry” watching the movements of the American barque “*Milaudon*,” of New York, which vessel there was strong reason to suspect was preparing to trade in a cargo of slaves.

2. This vessel had been previously boarded by the boats of Her Majesty's ship “*Philomel*,” under my command, and her nationality having been correctly ascertained, she was proved to be *bonâ fide* an American, and consequently by the Treaty between England and America, out of my power to detain, even if I had found her with slaves on board.

3. The Commander of the “Perry” having informed me that he was very short of water and provisions, I suggested to him that he should proceed to St. Paul de Loanda, to procure supplies, and that I would remain, to watch the suspected vessel, during his absence, but as the Americans are all fully aware of the powerlessness of the English cruizers to search or detain them, and that as this vessel might pass us with impunity, I proposed that the American cruiser should leave an officer and boat's crew on board the “*Philomel*,” until her return, so that in the event of the vessel in question taking advantage of the “Perry's” absence to embark slaves, and effect her escape, an American officer might be on the spot to seize her.

4. The Commander of the “Perry” immediately met my views on the subject, and having sent an officer and crew on board the “*Philomel*” for this purpose, he sailed the following day, the 22nd, for Loanda.

5. At daylight on the 27th, the suspected vessel was seen dropping down the river in the centre and strength of the current.

6. I immediately dispatched the two whale boats of this ship, under the command of the Second Lieutenant, and the American officer in his own boat to cut her off; the boats of this ship reached her some time before the American boats, but strict orders were given to the officer in command of this ship's boats not to go on board until the American officer got alongside, when, if he demanded the aid of the English, they were to board, but not till then.

7. The barque had no slaves or slave-fittings on board, but from information I received from the shore, and which I considered as authentic, there were 350 slaves in the bush, waiting for embarkation, together with her slave-deck, fittings, &c., and she having also a foreign supercargo on board at the time, an Italian, and her movements in general being so

suspicious, the American officer deemed it prudent, with my concurrence, to detain her until the return of the "Perry" from Loanda.

8. On the 30th instant the "Perry" returned, when I delivered the whole of the affairs in question into the hands of the Commander of that cruiser.

9. It has given me great pleasure and satisfaction to have had it in my power in this instance to carry out the instructions contained in the Treaty between the United States of America and England, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, namely, that of cordial cooperation and mutual assistance rendered by the cruisers of these nations to each other, and in this case it has had at least the good effect of showing, when the cruisers of our respective Governments act in proper concert, how dangerous, and indeed how almost impossible, it is for vessels intending to engage in the Slave Trade, to carry out their nefarious purposes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. M. D. SKENE.

No. 107.

Commander Need to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received June 30.)

Sir,

"Linnet," off Black Point, May 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report the capture of a barque engaged in the Slave Trade, without colours or papers, by the boats in charge of Lieutenant F. G. Proby, of Her Majesty's sloop under my command, and have the honour to inclose a copy of his statement.

I recognize the captured vessel as the "*Mellidon*," sailing a week ago under the flag of the United States of America.

At the time the boats boarded her she was engaged receiving wood and water from a number of large launches alongside, and the crew, with the exception of four, quitted the ship and got on shore. It is stated by those left that the vessel would have been ready for the cargo of negroes by noon, making it less than twenty-four hours from the time of her arrival with clean holds. I shall dispatch her to-day to St. Helena.

The capture of this vessel exposes another instance of the abuse of the American flag, for meeting her a week ago at Cabinda, and having been previously informed by the Commander of the United States' brig-of-war "Perry" of the suspicious circumstances under which she was sailing, I watched her very closely for two nights and a day, until she sailed, but after four days she returns, and no man-of-war being in sight, she commences shipping provisions and water, and but for the opportune arrival of my boats, would have gone clear off, with a cargo of Africans, in a few hours, with no evidence of her former nationality, the only persons on board being Portuguese or Spaniards.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY NEED.

Inclosure in No. 107.

Lieutenant Proby to Commander Need.

Sir,

"Linnet," off Black Point, April 13, 1845.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the evening of the 29th, I observed a barque anchored off Cabinda, and having pulled in I boarded her at 1 A.M. of the 30th, and found her engaged in shipping water from several large launches alongside. I was informed in answer to my question of "What ship is this?" that she had no name, colours, papers, or nation. While engaged in clearing the decks for weighing, the crew, with the exception of four, escaped. I weighed at daylight and rejoined the brig in the evening.

The person, Charles Cabaljer, who appears to have the direction on board, informed me that he intended to have taken a cargo of slaves which were ready.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. G. PROBY.

No. 108.

Commander Macdonald to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—
(Received July 20.)

Sir,

“Ferret,” Sierra Leone, June 10, 1854.

1. I HAVE the honour to inform you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that in consequence of a commutation having been made to me by Governor Kennedy, that he had received notice of a vessel being secreted in the River Pongas preparing to convey a cargo of slaves from that river, I lost no time in proceeding there in this sloop, anchoring off the bar on the 20th ultimo.

2. Owing to the civil war raging in the river, and the anti-Slave Trade party being the weaker, and driven from the water's side, and their towers destroyed, I was pulling three days before I could obtain any clue to finding the locality in which the vessel was secreted; but, on the 23rd of May, up a long and tortuous creek I had the extreme satisfaction of discovering, moored by the mangrove bushes, a large schooner, which on boarding proved to be the *“Manuella,”* without colours or papers.

3. I learnt from the crew on board (eight out of ten of whom were Spaniards) that she had entered the river some five weeks before (having sailed from New York with a general cargo), under the American ensign, being called the *“Mary Jane Peek;”* that afterwards the American who had brought her over as master had sold her to a Spaniard, who had come over in her, declaring to the crew that her name was altered, and that she was no longer American; that the cargo had been landed at the factory of a mulatto named William Jaher, a notorious slave-dealer; and subsequently the vessel had been brought down the river some thirty miles, and placed in the spot where I found her.

4. There being in her equipment sufficient cause to justify my detaining her, I took possession, and sent her to Sierra Leone for adjudication, where she was condemned on the 5th instant.

5. I consider it my duty to bear testimony to the steady conduct and extreme endurance of the officers and men employed on this service, pulling from 5 A.M. to 11 P.M. for three days, and extricating the vessel from the position in one day, which it had taken the crew, aided by the natives in large canoes, seven to place her in, under the influence of a burning sun in one of the most pestilential rivers on this coast, and particularly to the able assistance I received from Mr. C. C. Robinson, Acting Lieutenant of this ship. I am happy to state that not a single instance of fever has resulted therefrom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. J. J. G. MACDONALD.

No. 109.

Commander Miller to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received
August 5.)

(Extract.)

“Crane,” off Whydah, June 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of their Lordships, that their letter of the 10th April, addressed to the Senior Officer of the North Division, being duly forwarded by that officer, reached me this morning, and in compliance therewith the *“Arab”* sails to-morrow for Ascension, to pick up her Commander (sick at hospital), *en route* for Cuba.

The squadron in the Bights is now reduced to two vessels, viz., *“Antelope”* and *“Crane;”* the station extends from Cape Three Points to Cape St. John's, comprising a line of coast little short of 1,000 miles, and takes in the Islands of Fernando Po, Prince's, and Anno Bon and St. Thomas.

Lagos ought never to be left unguarded, nor should Whydah or Little Popoe ever be without an efficient cruiser in sight. Mr. Campbell, the Consul, apprehends, I am sorry to say, fresh disturbances on the part of Kosoko.

An American brig, the "*Spread Eagle*," with whom I exchanged colours on the afternoon of the 15th ultimo, a few miles to windward of this, got away before noon of the next day from this very place, with nearly 700 slaves on board. I had boarded all the vessels lying here the previous day, and was off Aghwey, a notorious slave-hold, some thirty-five miles to windward, when the shipment occurred.

I trust their Lordships will excuse my mentioning these circumstances; but as the ordering of the "*Arab*" to her new destination admits of an excuse for addressing them direct, I have, in alluding cursorily to what has been more fully detailed to the Commodore at Ascension, thought only of the good of the service.

No. 110.

Commander Phillips to Commodore Kitchen.

"*Polyphemus*," at Sea, Lat. 8° 30' S., Long. 12° 50' E.,
Sir, May 8, 1855.

HER Majesty's Chief Commissioner at St. Paul de Loanda, Sir George Jackson, having acquainted me that he should feel it his duty to inform the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, "that it has been reported that on the 8th of April last, slaves were shipped in open day in the harbour of St. Paul de Loanda, and that it must have been seen by Her Majesty's ships '*Philomel*,' '*Polyphemus*,' and '*Athol*;' "

2. I have most respectfully to assure you that nothing of the sort was seen from the "*Polyphemus*," which vessel did not arrive in the harbour till half-an-hour before noon of the day in question.

3. The officers commanding the "*Philomel*" and "*Athol*" being absent have not yet heard this charge against them, but having been in frequent communication with them through the remaining part of the day mentioned, I can take upon myself to state most certainly that nothing calling for their notice was seen from their ships.

4. Such a transaction would be more easily seen (if it took place at all) from the custom-house, the arsenal, the batteries, and the Portuguese brig of war "*Serra do Pilar*," then present.

5. I have had the satisfaction of hearing that Her Majesty's Arbitrator at St. Paul de Loanda, does not concur with his colleague in this reflection on the vigilance of the three ships.

6. A transport in the service of the Colonial Government of Angola called the "*Trindade*," commanded by an officer of the Portuguese Royal navy, and wearing a pendant, left St. Paul de Loanda for St. Thomas' on the 8th of April, with slaves on board, whose shipment was legalized by the passports, &c., required by that Article (V) of the Treaty with Portugal, which permits Portuguese subjects removing to certain places, to be accompanied by a certain number of slaves, *bonâ fide* their household servants.

7. After the departure of the vessel, and of the "*Philomel*," "*Polyphemus*," and "*Athol*," Her Majesty's Commissioners seemed to have formed an opinion that among the slaves embarked in the "*Trindade*" were some who did not come within the description of persons (household servants) who can be removed under the Treaty, and are at issue with the the Portuguese authorities on the subject. I am not aware that this opinion of Her Majesty's Commissioners is given judicially, or upon what evidence it is founded.

8. The Portuguese authorities defend this and other acts of a similar nature, and the matter will doubtless be referred to the two Governments at home.

9. Not having met with the vessel in question, except within the port of St. Paul de Loanda, where we are forbidden to board, visit, or detain, I can of course give no opinion on the points at issue between Her Majesty's Commissioners and the Portuguese Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. GERRANS PHILLIPS.

No. 111.

Lieutenant Pearse to Rear-Admiral Martin.—(Received August 10.)

Sir, *Portsea, Hampshire, August 5, 1854.*

IN reply to your memorandum of this morning, and with reference to the alleged shipment of slaves on the 8th of April last, in the harbour of St. Paul de Loanda, and which must have been seen by Her Majesty's ships "Philomel," "Polyphemus," and "Athol," then laying there, I have the honour respectfully to acquaint you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that no such occurrence was observed from the "Athol."

The "Athol" left the following morning, but being again off the port on the 13th, I communicated personally with Commander Need, of the "Linnet," which vessel was at anchor there, and had any such report been current at the time, I must have known it, as all reports bearing upon the Slave Trade were the chief subjects of our discussion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. A. R. PEARSE.

No. 112.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received September 7.)

Sir, *"Scourge," at Ascension, July 27, 1854.*

I HAVE to request you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the inclosed, communicating certain information respecting Central Africa, which has been received from the Rev. D. Livingstone.

I take the earliest opportunity of forwarding this information to England, in case the illness under which Mr. Livingstone is labouring, should have prevented him from making this communication to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, for transmission to the Foreign Office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 112.

Commander Phillips to Commodore Kitchen.

Sir, *"Polyphemus," at Sea, lat. 10° 15' S., long. 5° 55' W.,
July 22, 1854.*

I INCLOSE herewith a paper containing some valuable geographical information, which was communicated to me in the early part of this month by the Rev. D. Livingstone.

At the time he permitted me to visit him, he was quite unable to write, and though I think that Mr. Gabriel will communicate with the Foreign Office on the subject, I consider it my duty to put you in possession of the information afforded me by the reverend gentleman.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. GERRANS PHILLIPS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 112.

Memorandum containing Geographical Information respecting Central Africa.

ON the 31st May, 1854, arrived at St. Paul de Loanda, the capital of the Portuguese Province of Angola; the Rev. David Livingstone, the discoverer of the Lake Ngami.

This gentleman has for some years resided at Kolaben, on the Cape frontier, as a member of the London Missionary Society. He left that station, early in 1852, on an expedition of discovery, with the hope of extending the stations of his mission as well as opening up friendly and commercial relations with the tribes of Central Africa.

Leaving the Lake Ngami to the westward, and prosecuting his journey nearly on the meridian of 23° and 24° east of Greenwich, he arrived on the banks of the Zambeze between 14° and 16° south latitude, where that great river takes its direction from north to south, nearly in the centre of South Africa.

In this country he was received in the most friendly manner by a powerful Chief called Sekeletu, under whose protection he continued for a period of eight months, preaching the gospel and acquiring valuable information of the country and its inhabitants.

The people are described as harmless and well-disposed, subsisting principally on mandico; idolaters, but not worshippers of a fetish, or in the practice of making human sacrifices. They are good workers in iron, every village having its smith.

The country under the sway of Sekeletu, which extends as far as 14° south latitude, is a table land, described as undulating and prairie-like, with some fine forest tracts, numerous herds of cattle, which are frequently used to the saddle. Mr. Livingstone completed his journey on the King's bullock.

Wax and ivory are exchanged for cloth, arms, powder, &c.; but the few strangers who visit them are principally Arabs from the east coast, and are only anxious to procure slaves.

Sekeletu is described as desirous to carry out the policy of his father Sebitoani, who was always desirous of opening a legitimate trade with white men. He gave Mr. Livingstone every facility, provided him with a train of thirty attendants, with which that gentleman quitted his friend's capital by one of the branches of the Zambeze, which traverses a country called Balanda, under the sway of a Chief called Matramvo, who enjoys the reputation of being the most powerful Chief of Central Africa, and whose subjects behaved in the most friendly manner to Mr. Livingstone as long as he was amongst them.

But on his approach to the tribes who border on the Portuguese territory, he experienced considerable arrogance from their rapacity and ill-will, and was obliged to make several détours to avoid them, in the course of which he imagined that he passed near the head of the Congo, or Zaire River.

At length, in the month of April, after a sudden descent of 2,000 feet, he reached the frontier post of Portugal at Kassendgi, where he received every kindness and attention, and, favoured by the good offices of the different Portuguese authorities, descended by the River Coanza, and finally reached St. Paul de Loanda with his party, where he was received with marked attention by the President of the Regency, the Catholic Bishop of the diocese (Dom Joaquim Moreira Reis, Bishop of Angola and Congo), and the different Portuguese authorities.

He is now suffering severely from fever and dysentery; but under the kind and hospitable care of Her Majesty's Arbitrator, Edward Gabriel, Esquire, it is hoped that he will be, ere long, enabled to carry out his intention of returning to his friend Sekeletu, with whom he has left his waggon and travelling equipage.

Mr. Livingstone has been well found in instruments, and is an excellent observer, but is diffident of communicating the result of his observations until his health permits him to revise and put them into form; but the position of Sekeletu's capital, where his residence was long enough to afford him many observations, may be confidently stated as latitude 18° 17' south, longitude 23° 40' east of Greenwich.

(Signed) C. GERRANS PHILLIPS, *Commander.*

No. 113.

Lieutenant Bedingfeld to Commodore Kitchen.

(Extract.)

"Pluto," at Sea, June 6, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report my proceedings up the Congo.

On arriving in the river on the 31st ultimo, I found laying off Medora creek the English brig "Sobraon," belonging to Messrs. Tobin and Sons, of Liverpool. The master of her made a complaint of his having been driven away from his factory at Punta de Linha, about 20 miles up, on the north shore, by the Portuguese, and I deemed it necessary to go up at once, to inquire into the circumstances.

The following, I believe, from all inquiries I could make, is as nearly the truth as possible.

It appears that the Portuguese are exceedingly jealous of the English traders settling here at all; but the natives, on the contrary, very much wish it. The master of the "Sobraon," after paying the usual custom to the Chiefs, and receiving their permission to build a factory, brought his

brig up the river, for the purpose of landing his cargo, and employed many of the natives getting his factory to rights. After the usual working hours he gave his people permission to amuse themselves about the factory. This custom appeared to annoy the Portuguese, as they keep their slaves in great subjection, and considered it wrong to allow them any amusement whatever, stating that it caused them to get unruly, was a bad custom, and that they must keep them down.

On the evening of the 17th ultimo, while the natives employed about the English factory were getting their suppers, several Portuguese from the neighbouring factories, principally the head men, came armed to the English one (the master being on board his ship), and drove all the people (natives) away into the bush, broke all their cooking-utensils, and threw all the tools that had been employed building the factory into the river. They then came abreast of the ship, and pointing their muskets at her, threatened that if the master came on shore again, they would kill him; and if he attempted to land his cargo they would burn it and the factory, and kill any white man that was left in charge. On the following day one of the Chiefs, whose men were principally employed about the English factory, came armed to inquire why the Portuguese had molested them. The Portuguese immediately sent for another Chief, a great ally, who also came armed, and as it appeared from the quantity of rum distributed amongst the natives, that it was more than probable the Portuguese would succeed in getting up a fight, and the property on board the brig would be endangered, the master thought it better to drop the vessel down the river. By this palaver the English trader has been delayed fifteen days already, of course at a very considerable loss.

I steamed up the river without accident, on the 1st of June, and anchored off the factory at noon. I immediately sent an officer to inform the Portuguese why I had come, and requested their attendance on board the following day, June 2nd, at 10 A. M. I then went up the river to the nearest Chief, Prince Machilla, taking with me the master of the brig, and two interpreters. He, the Chief, received us in a most friendly manner, and expressed his sorrow at what had happened, and informed me that he had already sent to all the Chiefs, telling them of the man-of-war coming up, and inviting them to come and hold palaver at once. He said he was most anxious for the English to come to his country to trade; that they brought better goods, and treated his people well, to which all of his head men assented. We had a conversation about the Slave Trade, and he seemed to understand that he could make more money by his people collecting palm-oil, than in selling them, and if the other Chiefs agree he would like to make "good book" for trade, all the same as other rivers, meaning the Bonny, and those to the northward. He went away much pleased with the ship, never having seen a steamer before.

June 2.—This morning, 10 A. M., two of the Portuguese came on board, but not those that committed the outrage. It appears that the others got out of the river as soon as possible, on hearing that a man-of-war was coming; the two that came on board made a very lame attempt to excuse what had been done, denying nothing of Mr. Cheeseman's statement, excepting the pointing the musket at the ship. They said the negroes of the English factory had seen them at dinner, and had purposely shouted to insult them, and that in consequence they took the law into their own hands, without even mentioning the fact to their masters. In the course of conversation one, a Mr. Leopold, acknowledged that had the master of the "Sobraon" put the same price on his goods that they did on theirs, nothing of the sort would have happened, thereby clearly admitting the reason for attacking his people was a jealousy of his being able to undersell them. I have since made strict inquiries on board the brig, from the doctor and mates, who saw the affray, and there seems no doubt that the former statement of the master is in all particulars quite correct.

I informed the Portuguese that I considered it a very serious affair; and as the principal parties had got out of the way, of course nothing could be done except to forward the information I had obtained to the senior officer. At the same time I told him that if any further violence

was offered to the English, or their trade obstructed, I should feel it my duty to take summary steps to put an end to it. They promised that the whites would not molest them in any way, but hinted that they thought it hard, if such a thing should happen as a native firing the English factory, that they should be accused of it. I told them that, after the threats that had been used, should that occur, they could not fail falling under suspicion; and I cautioned them to take care what they were about, as they could not doubt that a peaceful legal trader, settling by the express wish of the Chiefs of the country, would be protected by his Government. Their defence was, that the English sold their goods so cheap, that oil would be worth nothing to themselves at the same price.

In the afternoon the two head Chiefs, Machilla and Chimbach, came on board with their principal men. By their own statement, they had punished the Portuguese by fining them all.

We left Punta de Linha on the 3rd, at daylight, and anchored off Medora Creek at 8 A. M.

There can be little doubt of the vast importance of the legal trade here: the immense quantity of produce of several kinds, principally palm-oil; the facility the river offers for ships of a large size far up, with most convenient places for factories; and the eager way the natives have collected samples for trade, renders it impossible to imagine to what an extent the trade might be carried by energetic men.

On Sunday I went, at the request of King Medora, to visit his farm, and those of his head men. I was quite surprised at the quantity of land under cultivation; there were large quantities of ground-nuts, beans, guinea-corn, and cassada. The chief men took us to the top of a hill to show us a fine palm-oil country, and pointed out the smoke of several fires, at all of which, they informed us, the natives were making oil. They appear to be a very industrious people, and much more independent than many of the natives on the coast. They seemed much pleased with our visit, and we were obliged to call at the houses of the head men before they would let us return to the boat.

I dropped out of the river early on Monday morning, and anchored off Cabinda, in company with United States' ship "Dale."

Trusting that my conduct will meet with your approval, I have, &c.

No. 114.

Lieutenant Bedingfeld to Commander Skene.

(Extract.)

"*Pluto*," at Sea, July 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I arrived in the Congo on the 18th ultimo, and steamed up as far as Medora's Creek in the south shore; keeping rather too close in-shore to avoid the strength of the current, ship touched slightly, but came off again without any damage; quite soft mud.

As soon as we anchored, King Medora and his head men came on board; they were glad I had returned so soon to make trade-book, and expressed their readiness to sign on our return from up the river. I engaged an interpreter to go with us.

At daylight, on the 19th, steamed up for Punta de Linha, arriving at 11:30 A.M. As I wished to be as clear as possible of the Portuguese, I went on and anchored off Prince Machilla's town, called Foomoo. The brig "Sobraon" was at Punta de Linha; and we passed on her way down the English schooner "Lady Ann," of London, belonging to Messrs. Tobin and Sons.

Machilla, with his sons and head men, came on board; and we had a long conversation about trade. I mentioned in my report of 6th ultimo, that Machilla is one of the most influential men in the river; and as he is shrewd and intelligent, with a partiality for the English, I have great hopes that, if properly supported, he will be the means of establishing the

legal trade on a firm footing; his sons are also intelligent young men, and likely to follow their father's example.

On the morning of the 20th, Chimbach, one of the Chiefs, had not arrived, and there seemed little chance of getting hold of him. I therefore sent to Machilla, and told him it was no use waiting any longer; he came on board at once with his principal people, and signed the agreement. He told me that although Chimbach had broken his word with me, he would not; that he and his people were glad the Queen of England looked to their country; they were quite tired of the Portuguese; that all the time they had been in his country they had not done any good or taught his people anything; and in a moral point of view it is certainly a disgrace to any white men having lived so long amongst them, and not to have endeavoured in some way to teach them better things. The Chiefs think it an honour for any white man to prostitute their wives or daughters; and on visiting them they always request it, and consider it a very creditable transaction. I found it the same in all the towns I visited; their houses are ornamented with the most obscene and disgusting figures; the women themselves have not the most remote idea of common decency.

No ship ever having been up the river since Captain Tuckey's trip in 1816, and hearing that the people were well disposed, and would be glad to see us, I determined to try and get up as far as Embomma, where a large market is held, and take with me the master of the "Sobraon," with a sample of his goods for trade. I knew it would be quite an exploring expedition, and I determined to try along the right bank of the river, as the chart made it a straight reach all the way up; we found it very different, however, as we got on.

We left Punta de Linha early on the 21st, and arrived at Lombee (the trading place for Embomma) on the morning of the 23rd, having had to feel all the way with the lead. The river is completely altered since the chart was made, or at least until after we had passed the islands and got to the entrance of the narrows. We touched slightly twice, but without doing any damage, as we proceeded with great caution. I landed at some of the small towns, and found the people all friendly; they were greatly astonished to see the steamer, few of them ever having seen one before. At some places they brought off stock, which we purchased with trade-goods, at the rate of about $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ for a sheep, and the rest in proportion. We saw numbers of hippopotami and alligators of a large size.

Soon after our arrival several headmen came off, and I explained to them our reasons for coming up. I had a hard matter to make them believe that I did not come for war. I showed them everything in the ship, and they were greatly astonished at all they saw; they promised I should go to the King on the following morning, but when they got on shore and talked the matter over, they were afraid to let me see him, thinking I might bewitch him: to make matters worse, news came up from the Portuguese that we had only come up to spoil their country, and advising them not to have anything to do with us. There are four Portuguese agents here now, and from what I could pick up by interpreters, I imagine this to be the principal meet of the slave agents for the markets of Ambriz, Ambrizette, and Cabinda; there is also another place on the coast, between Ambrizette and Point Padron, called the Head of the Cobra, where slaves are shipped. Of course these people did all in their power to thwart our good intentions, but I was determined to persevere, and I managed to get on board most of the Chiefs of the principal towns, and amongst them the King of Embomma's son, and explained matters fully to them; also why the Portuguese had so great an aversion to our settling with them. Mr. Cheeseman was also constantly amongst them, and used his utmost endeavours to gain their confidence; we at last succeeded so far that they decided on asking the trade-man to settle there, and they promised to give him plenty of trade, and take care that he should not be molested in any way, by their own people or any others. They gained confidence rapidly before we left, but were still afraid to let me see the King, who is a very old man. I told them I should not press the matter until we were better acquainted, and they would soon gain confidence when they saw our honest intentions. I explained to them how easy it would be for me,

if I had come for war, to burn all their towns at once (they had seen a rocket we sent up, and were very much frightened at it, until I explained to them that it was sent up in the air that they might look at it, and that we never used them for fight unless people were very bad, and did bad palaver). That the Queen of England had spent immense sums of money to try and show black men how to make their country come up and themselves big men, all the same as white man; and I endeavoured to show them what an immense advantage it would be to them if they would open a path for the trade to the interior; that as soon as Englishmen saw that they had plenty of ivory and gum, lots of ships would come to them, and that no Englishman would hurt a black man on any account. They declared that they were very glad, that I spoke good mouth to them, and I should soon hear that they had lots of trade ready; they promised not to believe any more stories against us, but to use their own judgment as to what was best for them.

They are, if possible, even worse with their women than at Punta de Linha; I saw several standing publicly in the market-place, with servants in attendance with mats, waiting for customers. The Chiefs said it was their custom, and did not think it at all out of the way or improper. As at the other places, we were requested to have connection with the daughters of the Chiefs, and the ladies looked much disappointed at our refusing so tempting an offer. The towns are remarkably clean, and the houses pretty but very small. The market is a large place cleared away on the top of a hill; it is held in the middle of the day, and lasts about three hours. The goods exposed for sale were principally provisions, salt (country-made very dear), abundance of meat and vegetables; the former they eat almost raw: fowls, eggs, sheep, &c., were brought alongside at very low prices, but of course with trade goods.

We left to go down again on the 26th, the master of the "Sobraon" going by the middle channel in his launch. The Chiefs and headmen came on board to take leave and see the engines in motion, and nothing could exceed their astonishment; they declared we must be gods, they had never heard of such things before.

I gave them a small dash, at which they were much delighted.

It was a difficult matter getting so long a vessel down again, and we were obliged to use the greatest caution; the boats were constantly a-head, and I came down short distances at a time, in order that I might sound as much of the river as possible before we weighed each day, the current generally running four or five knots an hour. We arrived at Foomoo on the 28th instant, without accident, with the exception of the port hawse-pipe, previously much worn, giving way, and injuring one length of chain.

I left Punta de Linha on the 29th, and steamed down to Medora's Creek before leaving. Machilla and his headmen came up to take leave, and renew his promises; he had the English ensign I gave him flying: he has given Mr. Cheeseman eight men to trade for him at Embomma, making himself responsible for the goods entrusted to their care. I gave him another dash at parting: he sent off a fine goat to the officers, and a large and very fat pig as a present to the ship's company: he promised to reason with Chimbach, and persuade him to try legal trade in earnest. He says the Portuguese are making a fool of him; but that he will soon see his mistake. I have since heard that he has quarrelled with his friends, and has sent to Mr. Cheeseman to ask to trade with him again.

Our trip has thus been so far successful that we have made an opening for legal, in a place where only the Slave Trade was carried on before. We found the people peaceful and well disposed, and I am confident that, with a little encouragement, they may be brought to see the advantages of commerce; they have a great idea of our power, and, independent of their wish to have Englishmen amongst them, they would be much too fearful of the consequences to hurt or molest any white man: I expect that when Mr. Cheeseman gets amongst them and explains matters more fully, they will be still more inclined for trade, and with trade and intercourse with Englishmen it is to be hoped will come civilization in every way.

The river might be surveyed up to Embomma with very little trouble or risk to the men employed, I should think; at all events, at this time of

the year there is so little rise and fall that no mud is left to be steaming all day, and in fact there is so little sun that it is difficult to get an observation. The mornings and evenings are (for us) quite cold, and the thermometer seldom ranges higher than 76° at noon. We found the water always much warmer than the external air.

The oil season is during the rains, though some is got all the year round; the gum is collected during the dry season; ivory all the year round; ground nuts might be grown to any extent; they have also tobacco in small quantities for their own consumption; cotton I should think might be cultivated if they knew the method: it now grows wild.

Many of the small Chiefs would sign the Slave Treaty, I believe; but without the other Chiefs it would be of little use. Machilla I look upon as the principal Chief in the river (they are all independent of each other), and as he has entered into the trade with a will, and seems determined to do his best, I have no doubt that with his influence he will induce many others to join his example; he has promised to send to the bushmen and others to try to get them to come to his towns to trade; he will make his people treat them well, and try and gain their confidence; he is also to endeavour to try and get up a sort of free market at his place for the natives from up the river.

We left the river on the 2nd of July, and although from long service on the coast, and constant river work on the north coast and Bights, few of the men have escaped the fever more or less, and of course much reduced in strength, and consequently more liable to a fresh attack, I am happy to say I have not a single new case.

I inclose one of the originals of the Agreement; the other I shall forward, as directed in the instructions, to the Secretary of the Admiralty with a duplicate of my report to you. Each of the principal Chiefs got a copy, and one was left for the use of masters of any new vessels arriving. The Agreement was made as short as possible, that the natives might have no difficulty in understanding it, and they are all perfectly aware that it is only a temporary arrangement until approved of at home.

It will be a great satisfaction to me should our exertions have tended in any way to raise these people from the utter degradation they are in at present, and I trust my proceedings will meet with your approbation.

Inclosure in No. 114.

Agreement.

"Pluto," Congo River, June 20, 1854.

BY the express wish of the undersigned Chiefs and Headmen of the Congo River, the following agreement was entered into, and considered fair and equitable for the mutual protection of trade and commerce between the said Chiefs and Headmen and the British traders.

ARTICLE I.

That upon the arrival of any British merchant-vessel in this river for the purpose of trading therein, the supercargo shall, upon tendering the usual custom to the Chiefs or Headmen entitled to receive it, be allowed the privilege of trading without any further delays or molestation.

Should the custom not be immediately taken when tendered, the ship is to commence trade; but it does not follow the supercargo is exempt from paying the custom, if subsequently demanded.

ARTICLE II.

Upon a trader expressing to a Chief or Headman his wish to settle and trade in his territory, he, the said Chief or Headman, shall appoint him a piece of ground to build his factory on; and it is to be distinctly understood by the Chiefs and Headmen, that when the custom is paid or tendered, they, the Chiefs, &c., are responsible for the safety of the lives and property of the traders against their own people, or any others in their territory.

ARTICLE III.

No second custom shall be paid for one voyage of a ship, should it so happen that the supercargo or master should die, or should the ship leave to visit other ports, and afterwards return to complete cargo, &c., provided always that it is the same voyage from Europe.

ARTICLE IV.

No Chief or Headman shall, on any pretence whatever, force any trust from any of the British traders, or allow any of his people so to do.

ARTICLE V.

In the event of any misunderstanding between the natives and traders, the Chiefs, Headmen and Masters of the ships shall quietly meet and inquire into the affair; and the Chiefs pledge themselves to punish any offender should he be a native, and the Masters pledge themselves to do the same should he be a white man.

Should they not then be able to settle the palaver, a letter is to be sent to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Loanda, or to one of Her Majesty's ships, but on no such or any other pretence shall the trade be stopped or hindered in any way.

ARTICLE VI.

We the Chiefs and Headmen of this river, and Masters and Supercargoes of the British vessels, of our own free will, and perfectly understanding the above Articles of this Agreement, consider the same to be perfectly binding to us all, and as a proof thereof we here, in the presence of Lieutenant Commander Norman B. Bedingfeld and officers of Her Majesty's ship "Pluto," affix our names.

(Signed) ^{his} PRINCE ✕ MACHILLA.
mark.
^{his} KING ✕ MAZELLE.
mark.
^{his} MAMBOOKO ✕ DE ZALI.
mark.
^{his} MAFOOKA ✕ DE PUNTO.
mark.
^{his} KING ✕ MEDORA.
mark.
^{his} MAMBUCO ✕ MINGALLI.
mark.
^{his} ZOOAVO ✕ LINGUESTER.
mark.
^{his} PRINCE ✕ JACK.
mark.
^{his} MANOEL ✕

JOHN CHEESEMAN, *Master and Supercargo of the English brig "Sobraon."*
NORMAN B. BEDINGFELD, *Lieutenant-Commander H.M.S. "Pluto."*
C. A. J. HEYSHAM, *Mate H.M.S. "Pluto."*
E. SWAIN, *Second Master H.M.S. "Pluto."*
DAVID WILSON, *Assistant Surgeon H.M.S. "Pluto."*

No. 115.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received December 20.)

Sir,

"Scourge," Accra Roads, November 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th September last, acquainting me that orders have been given for Her Majesty's ships "Antelope" and "Prometheus" to proceed to this station, to join the squadron under my command.

I beg you will inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the "Prometheus" arrived here yesterday morning, having left Gibraltar on the 16th of October, whence she proceeded direct to Sierra Leone, arriving there on the 28th of that month. The "Dover," colonial steamer, had arrived there on the previous day with detachments of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd West India Regiments, destined for the Gold Coast; and Commander Selwyn hearing that the "Scourge" was at this place, and that it might be of importance for the troops to reach Accra as speedily as possible, took them on board the "Prometheus," and having completed water, provisions, &c., left to join me on the 1st instant.

The troops not being required here, have not been landed; and the Governor being anxious that the other detachments brought down in the

"Britomart" and "Ferret" should return, I have given directions for a passage to be given them in the "Prometheus;" and so soon as they have been received on board, it is my intention to dispatch that vessel to Sierra Leone, where she will remain under the orders of the senior officer of that division, until I shall be enabled to relieve her by some steam-vessel of lighter draught of water, which may be able to proceed up the rivers.

The "Britomart" sailed on the 4th, and the "Ferret" on the 5th instant, the former from Sierra Leone and the latter from Ascension, as mentioned in my letter of the 4th instant.

By the "Ethiope," contract steam-vessel, which arrived here this morning, I received intimation from Commander Miller, of the "Crane," that the position of affairs at Lagos continued in every respect satisfactory; but that my arrival was anxiously expected there, to conclude the Treaty at present pending between Kosoko and the British Government. I inclose a copy of the Agreement mentioned in my previous letter.

I regret to say that fever to some extent has broken out on board the "Minx," but I trust it will not prove serious. In pursuance of instructions from me, Commander Miller has dispatched her to Ascension, for which place she started on the 6th instant, touching at Prince's for water.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure in No. 115.

Agreement.

AGREEMENT entered into this 28th day of September, 1854, between Kosoko his Cabooceers and Chiefs, and Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, and Thomas Miller, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," senior officer in the Bights of Benin and Biafra.

ARTICLE I.

Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, solemnly pledge themselves to make no attempt to regain possession of Lagos, either by threat, hostilities, or stratagem.

ARTICLE II.

Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, claim as their port of trade, Palma, and Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and Thomas Miller, Esquire, Commander and Senior Naval Officer in the Bights, engage to recognize Palma as the port of Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, for all purposes of legitimate trade.

ARTICLE III.

Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, do most solemnly pledge themselves to abandon the Slave Trade, that is, the export of slaves from Africa; also not to allow any slave-trader to reside at their port, or at any other place within their jurisdiction and influence.

ARTICLE IV.

Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, solemnly bind themselves to give every protection and assistance to such merchants and traders as may wish to reside amongst them for the purpose of carrying on legitimate trade. Also to assist Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to reopen the markets on the Jaboo shore, viz., Agienne, Ecrobo, and Abayee, and in maintaining order and security at those markets.

ARTICLE V.

There shall be levied at the port of Palma an export duty of one head of cowries for every puncheon of palm oil, of the average size of one hundred and twenty gallons; and two strings of cowries per lb. on all ivory exported from the above port, for the benefit of Kosoko.

ARTICLE VI.

Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, engages on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, that for the due and faithful performance of this engagement on the part of Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, there shall be paid to Kosoko, by Her Majesty's Government, an annual allowance for his life of two thousand heads of cowries, or one thousand dollars, at his option.

ARTICLE VII.

This Agreement to have full force and effect from this day, and until annulled by Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

Signed up the Lagoon, at Appi, this 28th day of September, 1854.

Caboceers and Chiefs : (Signed)	KOSOKO ^{his} X mark.	Caboceers and Chiefs : (Signed)	WHYDSBAH ^{his} X mark.
OLOOSEMAA ^{his} X mark.	BOGALOO ^{his} X mark.	PELLEW ^{his} X mark.	OBESAU ^{his} X mark.
ALUTO ^{his} X mark.	ETEO ^{his} X mark.	AGIENNE ^{his} X mark.	JOMOSA ^{his} X mark.
ABATCHO ^{his} X mark.	OLCHEODEE ^{his} X mark.		

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin.
 THOS. MILLER,
*Commander H.M.S. "Crane," and Senior Officer of the Bights
 of Benin and Biafra.*

Witnessed by—

HERBERT L. RYVES, *Lieutenant Commanding "Minx."*
 W. P. BRAUND, *Master H.M.S. "Crane."*
 FRANCIS W. DAVIS, *Assistant-Surgeon "Minx."*
 GEO. BATTS LEOLD, *Merchant of Lagos.*
 W. R. HANSON, " "
 JOSE PITTE DE ROY, " "
 SAM'L. B. WILLIAMS, " "

No. 116.

*Commander Miller to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received
 February 5, 1855.)*

Sir,

*"Minx," off Appi River, Lagos,
 September 28, 1854.*

IN consequence of the threatened hostilities on the part of Kosoko and his numerous adherents, against Lagos ; the constant representations from Mr. Consul Campbell and the merchants for its safety ; their fear not only of trade being stopped, but eventually having to quit that place, owing to Kosoko's superior and better-organized force, induced me, after duly weighing the responsibility of the undertaking, to embark, with the "Crane's" marines, accompanied by her pinnace and gig, comprising a force of 35 officers and men, on board this ship, on the 18th instant, for the purpose of making a demonstration off the town, thereby ensuring its temporary safety, and then, if possible, push right on to Épé (Kosoko's head-quarters), and use my utmost endeavours to compel him to sign an engagement never again to molest or disturb the peace of Lagos, by attempting to regain forcible possession of that place.

I have now the extreme pleasure of informing you that, in conjunction with Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Campbell, who joined me in the Consular boat with a few of the merchants, we prevailed on Kosoko and his Chiefs to sign an agreement tantamount to a Treaty,* a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, and trust the same will meet with your approbation, as the results arising from this agreement are of immense importance, viz. : Kosoko (whose power, influence, and hostility have been

* Inclosure in No. 115.

such a clog to a judicious disposal of the small squadron on my extensive station) gives up for ever the Slave Trade, likewise all attempts to regain possession of Lagos, the security and safety of which place is more permanently established; legitimate trade must rapidly increase; and the necessity of a man-of-war cruizer being constantly off Lagos no longer requisite. This has been a work of immense labour, at times appearing quite hopeless; yet, after getting on shore some dozens of times, and dragging the "Minx" over 5 feet water, I managed to anchor off this place early yesterday morning, having, as you will perceive, been nine days accomplishing the distance of 45 miles from Lagos.

Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, never imagined that a British man-of-war could proceed beyond Palaver Island (which is only 12 miles from Lagos); and nothing less than undeceiving them in this fallacy could have prevailed upon them so easily to accede to all required. I commence my return to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. MILLER.

No. 117.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

Sir,

"Scourge," off Palma, November 29, 1854.

I BEG you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that I left Lagos on the 27th instant, and arrived at this place the same evening, the "Crane" having preceded me a few hours.

On the morning of the 29th, Tappa, the Prime Minister to Kosoko, and another Cabooceer, with several of this Chief's retainers, came on board this ship, Commander Miller of the "Crane" having previously made an official visit to Kosoko on my part at his request.

I have the greatest pleasure in informing their Lordships that everything is on the most amicable footing; and Kosoko adheres most faithfully and cordially to all the conditions of the agreement entered into at Epé on the 28th September last, which agreement I have this day ratified with my entire and unqualified approbation.

As an earnest of Kosoko's good faith, I have much satisfaction in adding that legitimate trade has already commenced, and that one English vessel has left with a cargo of palm-oil, and two others (an American and a Sardinian) are now loading at this place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

No. 118.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received February 26, 1855.)

Sir,

"Scourge," Fernando Po, December 4, 1854.

I BEG you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that I have this day received a representation from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at this place, that Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny, on a recent occasion managed to smuggle over to that river one of his boys, which was the cause of creating a disturbance there, which stopped the trade for a period of ninety-six days, to the severe loss of the British shipping; and the proximity of this island to the River Bonny renders the ex-King's residence here very undesirable, in consequence of the frequent chances the ex-King has of communicating with his former territory.

I consequently consulted with Her Majesty's Acting Consul on the subject, and it appearing that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was of opinion that King Pepple should by no means be allowed to revisit or hold communication with the Bonny, so as to disturb

the peace of that river, I have conceived it most prudent (Mr. Lynslager coinciding with my views) to send him by the "Pluto" to Ascension, where he will remain a prisoner at large, until the wishes of Lord Clarendon may be known respecting him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

No. 119.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received March 29, 1855.)

Sir, "Scourge," *Fernando Po*, December 5, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a letter with its inclosures from Commander Miller, of the "Crane," reporting the detention (under the peculiar circumstances therein mentioned), of a Spanish slave-schooner, called the "*Mercedita*," which had been abandoned by the crew, and afterwards seized by the supercargo of the English ship "*Rhoderick Dhu*."

This schooner was sent to Sierra Leone for adjudication, but the Vice-Admiralty Court at that place refused to try the cause whilst the cargo placed in her by Mr. Hemingway remained on board. The prize officer in charge, therefore, returned to the Bonny, to discharge that cargo, after which he was to proceed to Sierra Leone, and again bring the vessel before the Court for adjudication.

I have not as yet received any information as to the decision which may have been made respecting her, but I shall lose no time in acquainting their Lordships with the result, so soon as I am myself in possession of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 119.

Commander Miller to Commodore Adams.

Sir, "Crane," off *Lagos*, August 28, 1854.

IN inclosing you the documents named in the margin, they will, I trust, explain themselves.

It appears that the schooner after being cleared out by Mr. Hemingway, master of the English ship "*Rhoderick Dhu*," and her slave fittings removed, was sent by him to trade in the Benin. I beg to inform you that on arriving at the Bonny I made full inquiries, and found that Captain Hemingway had acted in defiance of all advice. He acknowledged most distinctly to me that at the time of sending on board to take possession, he was fully aware she was a slaver; but advances in defence, that he was not bound to know it, and that as she had stranded ere any slaves were shipped, he thought he might venture to look upon her as derelict; he also advances he did not imagine Captain Birkett had, as an Englishman, any right to shelter or afford protection to a slaver's captain or crew; and knowing there were at least 500 doubloons on board, he imagined there was some underhand work; he denied a considerable portion of Captain Birkett's statement, likewise the correctness of the slave captain's list of stores, on board at the time of delivery; he talked about affording me a list of what had been removed by him, and also what had been put on board, but he did not do so: a portion of his log (copied by my orders) which admits the clearing of the schooner, together with his letter, is all that he adduces for his extraordinary conduct. He seemed quite aware that he had ventured on a rash and bold experiment, which he now bitterly regrets; but as there was about to be a great push in the oil trade, he could not resist the too tempting use he could put such a vessel to; and he declares that eventually he intended giving her over to a man-of-war. He has by his own confession property to the amount of 300*l.* on board, yet the discrepancy between what he returns to me as her cargo,—viz., 50 damaged casks, several cases of rice and barrels of flour, having been thrown overboard by him as damaged—seems so very difficult to comprehend when compared with the slave captain's list handed over to Captain Birkett, on giving her up to the Government, that it becomes convincing, rascality has been practised to a large extent. In the slave captain's list, are two hogsheads of claret containing 60 gallons each; similar casks (two in number) appear among those given to me as "water casks;" also a cask containing cod-fish, distinctly marked, is turned over in a like manner; but as it is well known that any one placing property on board an acknowledged slaver, must on that vessel being seized confiscate the same, I need comment no further on the great discrepancy alluded to. There can be no doubt the slave captain got his doubloons safely away, for the King told Captain Warde, of the English ship "*Pomona*," that he had been to him with a bag full bartering for slaves, and endeavouring to procure them at the cheap rate of two for three doubloons. Captain Hemingway may not have seized this vessel with any dishonest intentions, but merely for the pecuniary benefit of himself or employers, Messrs. Stuart and Douglas of Liverpool; yet as she had four guns of her own

when a slaver, and he thought proper to place two more on board, as also a crew of ten, though he informed me only three, it appears at any rate that, some way or other, they were determined to make trade.

I arrived off the Benin on the 24th, and finding the schooner had sailed up the river two days previously, left Lieutenant Forster and a party to take possession of her, and bring her on to me here. I am sending her on to Sierra Leone for adjudication, and expect her here to-morrow or next day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS MILLER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 119.

Declaration of Supercargo and Captain of the "Mercedita."

THE above-named vessel, under our charge and command, having got on shore on the bank in trying to get away over the bar, finding the vessel so seriously damaged as to be unable to proceed on our voyage, did proceed and put the said vessel on the beach in Bonny, and an English boat coming alongside, we did solicit the protection of the persons in her (Captain Birkett); at the same time we delivered the vessel up to him for the proper authorities, she being at the time half full of water. He, however, would not consent to give us protection, or take charge, unless we requested him to do so in writing, which we did. Captain Birkett merely allowing us to take on board our clothes and private property, as also two demijohns of wine, one box cider, and one dozen half-cases (or tins) sardines for our own sustenance, he refusing to take any provision from her, intimating that nothing should be removed from the vessel, until given up by him to the proper authorities.

(Signed) JOSSE CARERA.
BENTINO GONSALEZ.

Inventory of the Schooner "Mercedita," given the 26th day of June, 1854, as she was delivered to Captain Birkett, recognizing him as the English Government.

(Translation.)

30 barrels fine bread.	1 square-sail.
10 ditto beef.	1 new standing jib.
5 ditto pork.	1 old standing jib.
10 ditto W. beans.	1 jib.
1 hogshead cod fish.	1 new flying jib.
10 barrels rum, 45 gallons each.	2 new gaff topsails.
6 barrels corn meal.	1 main awning.
2 ditto flour.	Standing and running rigging.
6 boxes cod fish.	Blocks, patent, all complete.
8 ditto vermicelli.	Spare rope.
1 ditto brown soap.	1 coil hemp rope, 2 inch.
1 ditto sperm candles.	1 coil grass ditto, 2½ inch.
1 bale leaf tobacco.	1½ coil grass ditto, 1½ inch.
5 kegs of lard.	From 20 to 25 coil of new and half-worn rope.
1 ditto of butter.	1 set of large punches, all complete, all of patent blocks.
2 boxes raisins.	6 double blocks, new 9-inch patent span.
12 jars sweet oil.	54 water-casks.
2 casks of claret wine, 60 gallons each.	2 pair can hooks.
4 boxes champagne cider.	1 box.
2 barrels brown sugar.	4 tarpaulins.
1 keg of olives.	3 compasses.
1 box of gin.	7 Spanish charts.
1 sack white peas.	7 English charts.
2 barrels of vinegar.	Masts and yards complete.
2 ditto pickled salmon.	2 spare gaffs
2 lbs. pimento pepper.	1 topmast.
2 lbs. tea.	1 square-sail boom.
24 cases of rice, about 300 lbs. each.	2 chains, 120 fathoms each.
50 lbs. of salt.	Carpenters' tools, all complete.
½ barrel of anchovies.	1 keg nails (not full).
5 race of garlic.	Galley-stove and cooking utensils, all complete.
	Store-room and table utensils, all complete.
	1,500 feet board and scantling.
	Books, brooms, and several other things, in addition to the above, such as 3 lamps, &c.

Sails and Rigging.

- 1 new mainsail.
- 1 old ditto.
- 1 new foresail.

Inclosure 3 in No. 119.

Depositions.

AT Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, on the twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years, personally appeared before me, James William Bishop Lynslager, Esquire, Governor of the Island of Fernando Po, Richard Edmonson Birkett, master of the ship "Belle" of Liverpool, who, on his being sworn, deposed that while laying in the River Bonny on the twenty-sixth day of June of the present year, a schooner with Spanish colours flying entered that river; the colours were half-mast high. The previous day I had been requested to dispose of an anchor for a schooner at the bar. I went to the Chairman of the Bonny Court of Equity, to consult with him if it was prudent to dispose of the anchor, being under the impression it was for a slave-vessel, and he advised me not to give it. I went alongside the schooner to let the captain know he could not get it; the schooner had run on the mud. When I got alongside, the captain requested me to go on board, as he was in distress. The water was up to her slave-deck inside. On boarding her, the captain and supercargo wished to deliver the vessel up to me for the purpose of giving her up to the British Government or officers. I told the captain I could not take charge of her without a written document from him to that purport. He gave me one, authorising me to take the charge of her. I then allowed the captain, supercargo, and crew then on board, to go to my vessel, taking their wearing apparel and private property only. I then got the schooner's sails furled, got an anchor belonging to the "Belle" out inshore, cleared up the decks, and put everything below; sent my chief officer and carpenter to nail the hatches down and lock them; I left three men in charge. At 6 P.M. I again went to consult with the Chairman, when I was informed by him that the natives meditated an attack on the schooner that night. The Chairman strongly advised me to remove my men in case of an attack, and fearful of their being murdered by the natives. At 9 P.M. lights were seen on board the schooner (my men having been removed previous), and it was raining very heavy at the time; there was also a sound as if hammers were at work. At 5.30 A.M. on the following morning, I saw boats alongside the schooner, and men at work, the English flag flying in the main-rigging. I went alongside, and inquired of the person in charge, who had taken possession and at what time they had done so? He informed me that Captain Hemingway had boarded her the previous evening about 9 o'clock, and he was then discharging cargo out of her, having broken open the locks and hatches. A meeting was held next day of the supercargoes, King, and Chiefs, and remonstrances made as to the legality of Captain Hemingway's proceedings. I produced the document I had from the captain of the schooner, authorising me to take possession of her, but Captain Hemingway would not give her up.

I left my anchor on board the schooner. The Spanish flag which was flying when I boarded her, a declaration, both in English and Spanish, and an inventory given to me by the captain and supercargo of everything on board, with the keys of the locks of the hatches, I now deliver up to Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Pluto," in the presence of the aforementioned J. W. B. Lynslager, Esq.

(Signed) R. E. BIRKETT.

Sworn at Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, the twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Governor and Acting British Consular Agent.

At Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, on the twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years, personally appeared before me, James William Bishop Lynslager, Esquire, Joseph Cowen, chief officer of the ship "Belle" of Liverpool, who, being sworn, deposed that he went on board a schooner under Spanish colours in the River Bonny, by order of Captain Birkett, to get out an anchor belonging to the "Belle;" the vessel was nigh full of water, the anchor was got out, the hatches put on, and then they were locked, and I gave the keys to Captain Birkett.

Everything was put down below off the deck; nothing was taken out of the schooner during the time I was there.

(Signed) JOSEPH L. COWEN.

Sworn at Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, this twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Acting British Consular Agent and Governor.

At Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, on the twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years, personally appeared before me, James William Bishop Lynslager, Esquire, Governor of the Island of Fernando Po, John McLaughlin, seaman, who being sworn, deposed:—I joined the schooner "Oregon," of New Orleans, at Charlestown, South Carolina, for a voyage to St. Thomas, West Indies. There were six passengers on board, but after we left Charlestown one turned supercargo and the other five became seamen; I think they were Spaniards. We left on the 22nd April. When at sea a few days the ship's name was rubbed out by the Captain with black paint, and on inquiring his reasons for so doing, he replied that "he was going to the coast for niggers." He increased our wages from eighteen to forty dollars per month. We called at the Rio Pongo, but as a small vessel gave chase, we ran down the coast; we often saw land; anchored off the mouth of the River Bonny. A large canoe with the head pilot, Jack Brown, came off and returned with her full of goods out of the cargo. The schooner got ashore, but got off again and entered Bonny with the Spanish colours half-mast high. She left Charlestown under American colours.

(Signed) JOHN McLAUGHLIN.

Sworn at Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, this twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Governor and Acting British Consular Agent.

At Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, on the twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years, personally appeared before me, James William Bishop Lynslager, Esquire, Governor of the Island of Fernando Po, Charles Brown, carpenter of the ship "Belle," of Liverpool, who being sworn, deposed, that he went on board a schooner under Spanish colours in the River Bonny; that the said schooner was nigh full of water; that an anchor was got from the "Belle," the schooner not having one. The hatches were all put on the bars on top, and I put nails to prevent the hatches or bars being opened. Nothing whatever was taken out of the schooner during the time I was there.

(Signed) CHARLES BROWN.

Sworn at Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, this twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Acting British Consular Agent and Governor.

At Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, this twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years, personally appeared before me, James William Bishop Lynslager, Esquire, John Walsh, seaman, who being sworn, stated:—I joined the schooner "*Oregon*," of New Orleans, at Charlestown, South Carolina, for a voyage to St. Thomas, West Indies. There were six passengers, but after we left Charlestown, one turned supercargo, and the other five became seamen; they were Spaniards, I think. We left on the 22nd of April. After we had been some days (seven, I think) at sea, the captain got a brush of black paint, and rubbed it over the name on the stern, thus marking it out. The other seamen and myself spoke of this to the mate, who told us to go aft to the captain; he said, "Well, boys, I'm going to the coast for niggers." Our wages were eighteen dollars per month; but when he told us this, he said they would be increased to forty dollars per month. I believe Rio Pongo was his destination. Called there, but a small vessel gave us chase. We outran her in two hours. The "*Oregon*" was a very fast sailer. We went down the coast; saw the land often. Came to off Bonny, at the mouth of the river. A man of the name of Jack Brown, head pilot for the river, came off in a large canoe, and took away four barrels of rum, two barrels of fish, bread, rice, and other articles, to fill his canoe. We got under weigh in a calm, with the boat towing us a-head. The schooner drifted ashore, and remained five hours; she received damage: proceeded up the river, and having no anchor, the Captain put her on shore. I heard the Captain give the vessel up to Captain Birkett, for delivery to the British authorities. We took our clothes, and went on board the "Belle" under the protection of Captain Birkett. The schooner had Spanish colours, half mast, on entering the River Bonny.

(Signed) JOHN WALSH.

Sworn at Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, this twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Governor and Acting Consular Agent.

At Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, on the twenty-seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four years, personally appeared before me, James William Bishop Lynslager, Esquire, Governor of the Island of Fernando Po, John Pierce, seaman, who, being sworn, deposed:—I joined the schooner "*Oregon*," of New Orleans, at Charlestown, South Carolina, for a voyage to St. Thomas, West Indies. There were six passengers; but after we left Charlestown, one turned supercargo, and the other five became seamen. They were Spaniards, I think. We left on the 22nd of April. When off Bermuda, the Captain got some black paint, and rubbed over the ship's name. He then told us "he was going to the coast for niggers," increasing our wages from eighteen to forty dollars per month. Called at the Rio Pongo, but a small vessel gave chase, and we ran down the coast, often making the land. The "*Oregon*" was a very fast vessel. We left Charlestown under American colours, but afterwards they were changed to Spanish. Anchored off Bonny. A canoe came off. Jack Brown, the head pilot, got her full of rum, rice, bread, fish, and a great many other things. The schooner got ashore: got off again, and entered the Bonny, with Spanish colours, half mast high; had no anchor; and the Captain ran her on shore. Delivered her up to Captain Birkett, of the ship "Belle," to be re-delivered to the British authorities.

(Signed) JOHN PEARCE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 119.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of depositions made before me relative to a slaver which ran into the Bonny river, with copies of the documents mentioned therein.

Captain R. E. Birkett, who makes the first deposition, is at present master of the ship "Belle" of Liverpool, belonging to Messrs. Hatton and Cookson, Mersey-street, Liverpool, and is now on her passage to that place.

Captain Hemingway, mentioned in that deposition, is supercargo of the ship "Rhoderick Dhu," and trading for the firm of Stuart and Douglas, Liverpool. He has had the schooner repaired, put cargo in her, and sent her away; her destination is supposed to be the River Brass, or River Benin: she is under the command of the sailing-master, or mate (Mr. Mc Taggart), of the "Rhoderick Dhu," and the surgeon of the same vessel is supposed to be supercargo.

It appears, my Lord, to be a case requiring a very strict investigation, Captain Hemingway having

apparently acted in defiance of all law and justice ; it also tends very much to decrease the estimation in which the white men are held by the natives, when any one thus openly takes away property in charge of a second party, and that property for the British Government, and under the charge of a British subject.

The original depositions, documents, flag, and keys, have been delivered up to Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Pluto," in this place, who will forward them to Commander Miller, Senior Officer in the Bights of Benin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 119.

Commander Warde to Commander Miller.

Sir,

Bonny River, August 20, 1854.

IN reply to your inquiries regarding the communication which took place between the captain of the slave ship and myself, I am sorry to say that I cannot remember the whole of it.

He stated to me that his object in paying me a visit was for the purpose of buying an anchor and chain ; as I had neither the inclination nor the means of supplying him, I told him so. Upon my inquiring what his business was here, he told me that they had come to buy slaves ; that they had no cargo for that purpose but doubloons.

I stated to him, that it was impossible for him to accomplish his ends here, as the King and Chiefs were bound by Treaty with Her Britannic Majesty to entirely abolish the Slave Trade in their dominions. He then took his departure, saying he would sail next day for the Rio Pongo, which was their original destination.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. A. WARDE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 119.

Captain Hemingway to Commander Miller.

Sir,

"Rhoderick Dhu," Bonny River, August 20, 1854.

IN answer to your request for taking forcible possession of a Spanish slave schooner, I beg to state I took no forcible possession.

The said schooner arrived in the Bonny river during the afternoon of the 26th day of June. At 9 o'clock the same evening I went on board her ; previous to my going on board I had observed that Captain Birkett, of the British ship "Belle," proceeded on board the said schooner, and his two boats continued to pass between the schooner and his ship the "Belle," several times during the afternoon, and every trip the boats appeared to be heavily laden. At 9 o'clock P.M., I went alongside the schooner, on my way to my own ship the "Rhoderick Dhu." Seeing the schooner lying over very much and the sea breaking on all sides of her, I got close alongside and hailed the schooner several times without receiving any answer. I then sent a boat's crew, consisting of my chief officer, boatswain and five others of my crew, to examine the vessel, and if no person was on board to remain by her until daylight. They found the vessel full of water, the decks covered with empty provision casks, and empty packages. These were thrown overboard to clear the decks. At daylight my crew unbent sails, and by a very arduous and laborious work for twenty-four hours succeeded in getting the schooner cleared of all her damaged provisions, as rice, bread, beans, farinha, all saturated with saltwater, and two barrels of spirits, which was broached by the kroomen and crew, and great part of it drank and otherwise destroyed. Every particle of cargo had been removed during the previous afternoon, on board the "Belle," Captain Birkett. The captain, supercargo, and crew of the schooner was also on board the "Belle," also the schooner's cargo of "doubloons," consisting of from 400 to 500, which were retained by the captain and supercargo of the schooner on board the British ship "Belle," Captain Birkett, who protected these slavers and their cargo of doubloons, though remonstrated with for so doing. They were thus protected until the steamer "Forerunner" came into the river, and then conveyed on board the said steamer in Captain Birkett's boat, and left this river in the steamer. All the property saved from the schooner is particularly stated in my ship's log-book, which I handed to you the moment you arrived.

I have only further to observe, that finding a vessel abandoned, water-logged, without a soul on board, evidently plundered of everything from the state her decks were in, that I consider myself justified in rescuing her if I could, and that myself and crew would be entitled to salvage on the same. I have always considered that a British man-of-war would, under the circumstances of my claiming her as a derelict vessel, give me their protection.

You have made a demand for her ; I give her up to that demand, with everything I saved when I took charge of her, though, Sir, "not a forcible possession," for, as I again repeat, she was a stranded vessel. I repaired her at a considerable expense, with a vast amount of exposure and labour. I then sent her down to the River Benin, under the charge of my chief officer and surgeon, to procure a cargo of palm oil, with positive orders to put the vessel and cargo under the protection of any of Her Majesty's vessels they might fall in with. The schooner returned not being able to procure oil, and I again dispatched her, and am now expecting her arrival every day, and I beg that the cargo may be given to me, being the property of Messrs. Steward and Douglas, of Liverpool. I must of course leave the matter in your hands, and the Court of Inquiry.

I value the schooner at 1,000*l*.

I have, &c.
(Signed) REUBEN HEMINGWAY.

Inclosure 7 in No. 119.

Extract from the Court Book of the Board of Equity in the River Bonny.

June 26, 1854.

A MEETING was held this day at the Court-house, at half-past 3 o'clock, P.M., called by King Dappo, to inquire why Captains Hemingway and Birkett had taken possession of the Spanish schooner and her property, and requested that it would be given up into their care, until some person arrived who would have the power to settle who was the lawful owner of it. The whole of the Court refused to comply with their request, with the exception of the Chairman, whose opinion was, the natives had the greatest right to it. In consequence of his advising them not to seize on the ship, until they had given him three days' notice, which would have expired at 12 o'clock this day, and after this it was their intention to make a prize of her.

As a portion of the white men informed the King and Chiefs she was stranded, their reply was, it was upon their shores, and no one had any right to interfere with them, as she came to buy slaves, not to legally trade.

The King and Chiefs informed the Court they would not attend any meeting again, called by the parties who are in possession of the property.

(Signed) F. GRANT, *Chairman*.

Inclosure 8 in No. 119.

Extracts from the Log-book of the ship "Rhoderick Dhu," Captain Hemingway.

REMARKS.

June 26, 1854.

THE first part of the day, passing showers of rain; the crew employed as usual; received on board 23 puncheons of oil; at 9 A.M. strong squalls and heavy rain. Captain Hemingway came alongside in the boat, and ordered me to take eight men on board the schooner that was abandoned, and in a very dangerous position on a sand-bank, on the south side of the river. I immediately went on board, and found the schooner almost on her beam-ends, and full of water; the main-boom over the quarter (lee); a great many empty casks with the heads out, and having all the appearance of a ship that was plundered. When the tide ebbed, went below; found no national flag, no papers; there was no name on the stern, and no boats on deck or alongside. Midnight, hard squalls, rain, with a heavy surf on the beach.

(Signed) W. McTAGGART, *Mate*.
ADAM CUMMINGS, *Second Mate*.
THOMAS CARUTHERS.

REMARKS.

June 28, 1854.

The first of the day, passing showers of rain; the crew employed variously; finished cleaning the schooner's holds; kept both pumps going day and night. At 4, the pumps sucked; hauled her off the beach, and brought her to anchor amongst the shipping. She is still keeping the pumps going. Received on board six puncheons of oil latter part of the day.

REMARKS.

June 29, 1854.

The first part of the day, passing showers of rain: received no oil on board; hauled the schooner on the beach to try to get to the leak; eight hands constantly employed pumping her. Latter part of the day, rain.

30th June, and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd July, endeavouring to stop leak of schooner.

Inclosure 9 in No. 119.

RETURN OF SLAVE VESSELS captured by Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," Thomas Miller, Esq., Commander, on the 25th August, 1854.

When boarded.	Where.	Names of the			How rigged.	Under what Colours.	Where			To whom Consigned.	No. of days out.	No. of			Nature of Cargo.	Also, if a Slave Vessel.					Intelligence.		
		Vessel.	Master.	Owner.			From.	Bound.	Belonging.			Men.	Guns.	Tons.		Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Where Shipped.		Where sent for Trial.	Name of Proctor.
1854 August 25 ...	Benin ...	Mercedita	Unknown...	Unknown...	Schooner ...	Spanish ...	Boony	Benin	New Orleans	Unknown...	...	...	2	135	General ...	...	...	...	...	Sierra Leone	...	Stillwell & Sons, Arundel Street, Strand	Sent to Sierra Leone for Adjudication.

(Signed) THOMAS MILLER, *Commander.*

No. 120.

*Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received
March 30, 1855.)*

Sir,

"Scourge," Fernando Po, February 3, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of Additional Articles to the Commercial Treaties with the Kings and Chiefs of the Old and New Calabar rivers, which were entered into in January last, by Lieutenant C. H. Young, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 120.

Additional Articles to the Commercial Treaty with the King and Chiefs of the New Calabar River, dated October 2, 1850.

ARTICLE I.

THAT in four months from this date, it be deemed illegal for any supercargo to receive from a trader an irregular trade puncheon; that the trade puncheon be a regular 40-inch; and that, in order not to press too hard upon the trader, he may have the option of starting into a trade-cask, at the cask-house, if he has any suspicion that the cask is not up to the mark.

ARTICLE II.

That any breach of the above Article shall be punished as follows:—Any native making use of, or offering such an irregular cask for sale, shall be fined one puncheon of palm oil; and any white trader receiving or purchasing oil in such irregular casks be fined two puncheons of oil.

ARTICLE III.

In the event of any ship or vessel arriving in this river for the purpose of trade, and the King being absent, the supercargo or trader shall be at perfect liberty to commence trading; and any obstruction or other prevention occurring to prevent such trading, no matter under what circumstances, a fine of five trade puncheons of palm oil shall be inflicted upon the King and Chiefs of this river.

ARTICLE IV.

On the arrival of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the river, and until the whole of his business be transacted, no white trader be allowed to proceed on shore, on his own business, or in a private manner, without first requesting and obtaining permission of Her Majesty's Consul, under the penalty of one puncheon of palm oil for each offence.

Given under our hands on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," in the New Calabar river, this tenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

(Signed)	KING AMACREE	his X	(Signed)	GEO. AMACREE	his X
		mark.			mark.
	WILL BARBOY	his X		YOUNG BUZZ	his X
		mark.			mark.
	HARRY BRADE	his X		STEADFAST JACK	his X
		mark.			mark.
	EMANUEL	his X		YELLOW DUKE	his X
		mark.			mark.
	PRINCE WILL	his X		GEO. WILL	his X
		mark.			mark.
	WEST INDIA	his X		DON PEDRO	his X
		mark.			mark.
	BIG HARRY	his X		JUNGA	his X
		mark.			mark.
	TOOBRA AMACREE	his X		TOM LAWSON	his X
		mark.			mark.
	TIGER AMACREE	his X		WAR MATE	his X
		mark.			mark.
	DUKE MONMOUTH	his X		JACK REECE	his X
		mark.			mark.
	GEO. GOODHEAD	his X		YOUNG ANNE	his X
		mark.			mark.

Signed in our presence—

(Signd)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.
 C. H. YOUNG,
Lieutenant Commanding H.M.S. "Antelope."
 THOS. M. SIMPSON,
Secretary to Her Majesty's Consul.

Witnesses :

JOHN FRENCH.
 J. H. WITT.
 JAMES FINNIGAN.
 P. W. PHYTHIAN.

B. CAHILL.
 JOHN GLANVILLE,
 F. GRANT.
 E. WYLIE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 120.

*Additional Articles to a Treaty with the King and Chiefs of the Old Calabar River,
 dated 15th February, 1851.*

IT is hereby solemnly promised and agreed to by us, that any female belonging to the Old Calabar river, who shall from and after this date be delivered of twin children, that the children shall be given into the care of the Scottish Missionaries resident in the river, for the purpose of being forwarded to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po.

Given under our hands on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," in the Old Calabar river, this eighteenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY.

DUKE EPHRAIM his
mark.

YOUNG EYAMBE.
 THOMAS HOGAN.

EPHRAIM DUKE his
mark.

JOHN ARCHIBONG his
mark.

EGBO TOM his
mark.

BLACK DAVIES his
mark.

Signed date and day as mentioned above, before us—

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.
 C. H. YOUNG,
Lieutenant Commanding H.M.S. "Antelope."

J. S. MORGAN, *Supercargo "Lady Head."*
 J. H. BEECROFT, *"Lady Head."*
 J. CUTHBERTSON, *"Africa."*
 EDWARD DAVIES, *"Golden Age."*
 CHARLES CALVERT, *"Calabar."*
 GEO. A. LEWIS.
 PETER CROMPTON, *"Sarah,"*
 W. WOODFINE, *"Abeona."*

No. 121.

Commander Skene to Commodore Adams.

*"Philomel," off Shark's Point, River Congo,
 August 28, 1854.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that having received information at Loanda, and also from Lieutenant Bedingfeld, late commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Pluto," that a schooner was building in the River Congo, intended for the Slave Trade, I arrived at Shark's Point, in Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," under my command, on the 23rd instant, to endeavour to gain some accurate information respecting her, and if possible to capture or destroy her.

Whilst lying here, two large launches were observed going up the river (one on the 25th, the other on the 27th instant), without any colours flying, and deeply laden. On their being boarded and searched, it was discovered that they had no national colours; one had no papers of any

description whatever, and the other had only one dated more than thirteen months ago, and illegal, both being laden with cargoes destined for, in my opinion, the equipment of a slave-vessel, namely, coils of rope, a cask of tar, a large bag of oakum, picked and ready for use, a quantity of iron bars (fifty) of the dimensions used as hatch-bars in slavers; a large number of staves packed, evidently those of water-casks, a large bag of nails, of the size used in nailing down a slave-deck, or deck of $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch plank, and upwards of 100 barrels of gunpowder.

The "padrons" of these launches having confessed that they were both bound for the Banana Islands, on the north side of the river, the place where the suspected schooner was reported to be building, and being convinced that their cargoes were intended for the said, or some other vessel, and they having no colours, no papers, no lists of cargo, nor passes from the Portuguese Government of Loanda, I deemed them at once legal prizes, and seized them accordingly.

Having ordered a survey to be held on them, taken correct lists of their cargoes, and having had them accurately measured, and their tonnage calculated by the carpenter of this ship, and one of his crew; in obedience to the orders received from Rear-Admiral Bruce, late Commander-in-chief, on the subject of launches trading in the Congo, I landed their crews at the most convenient spot, namely, Shark's Point, and destroyed both the launches and their cargoes.

I then dispatched both the pinnacle and whale-boat of this ship, under the command of Lieutenant Dalison, the Senior Lieutenant, with the gunner, up the river, to endeavour to ascertain if there was any vessel building there for the Slave Trade; their proceedings on their return will be reported.

I beg to transmit reports of survey on these launches, with their calculated measurement and tonnage, a list of the cargo contained in each, and the usual form of slave-vessels captured.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN Mc D. SKENE.

Inclosure in No. 121.

RETURN OF SLAVE VESSELS captured by Her Majesty's sloop "Philomel," John McD. Skene, Esq., Commander.

When boarded.	Where.	Name of the		How rigged.	Under what Colours.	Where			To whom Consigned.	No. of days out.	No. of		Nature of Cargo.	Also, if a Slave Vessel.					Intelligence.	
		Vessel.	Master. Owner.			From.	Bound.	Belonging.			Men.	Guns.		Tons.	No. of Slaves on board.	Where Shipped.	Where sent for Trial.	Name of the Proctor.		Name of the London Agent
1854																				
August 26 ...	Shark's Point, River Congo .	...	...	...	None...	Ambriz ...	...	...	...	...	15	...	General	...	...	...	T. Knipe, Esq., St. Helena	A. Chippendale, Esq., 10, Finsbury Street, Adelphi	These boats had not the proper papers necessary for coasting vessels; and suspicious cargoes.	
August 27 ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	Ditto...	Ambriz and Ambrizette ...	Ditto ...	...	...	...	9	...	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...		

(Signed)

JOHN McD. SKENE, Commander.

No. 122.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received March 31.)

Sir,

"Scourge," Fernando Po, February 3, 1855.

I INCLOSE herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a letter, with its inclosures, which I have received from Lieutenant C. H. Young, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," detailing his proceedings in the attack upon and destruction of Old Town, in the Old Calabar river, in January last; a measure which he had taken at the requisition of Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, in consequence of the repeated infraction by the Chiefs of that village, of the VIth clause of the Treaty entered into with the King and Chiefs of the Old Calabar river, on the 15th February, 1851, which prohibits the practice of making human sacrifices.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 122.

Lieutenant Young to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

"Antelope," Fernando Po, January 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that in compliance with the request of Her Britannic Majesty's Acting-Consul, J. W. B. Lynslager, Esq., a copy of which I inclose, I proceeded in Her Majesty's steam-vessel under my command off Old Town, and after forty-five minutes' firing of shot and shell completely riddled the town, and drove out all the armed inhabitants. I then landed a party of small-arm men and marines, under the charge of Mr. T. F. Johnson and Mr. Watts, second masters, with directions to set fire to every part of it, which they effected in a most able manner. The party were then re-embarked, I am happy to say, without any casualties.

I trust it will not be presuming in my bringing to your notice the services of Messrs. T. F. Johnson and Watts, whose conduct throughout was most zealous.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. YOUNG.

Inclosure 2 in No. 122.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Lieutenant Young.

Sir,

"Antelope," Old Calabar, January 19, 1855.

DUKE Ephraim and Chiefs of this river having failed to deliver up to me the perpetrators of the murders lately committed in Old Town, by which about fifty individuals lost their lives, and having received letters from the supercargoes and missionaries in the river, relating these horrible deeds, and calling upon me for redress, I have come to the resolution, that to put an end at once and for ever to these crimes it is absolutely necessary to destroy the town.

The natives have received sufficient notice of my intentions.

I therefore beg to request that you will, with Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," under your command, destroy that town with shot and shell.

Copies of the documents before-mentioned will be handed over to you.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 122.

The Masters and Supercargoes in the Bonny River to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Calabar River, January 15, 1855.

WE the undersigned masters and supercargoes of vessels trading in the Old Calabar river, think it our duty, as desired by Her Britannic Majesty's late Consul, the late Mr. Beecroft, together with the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Archer," J. N. Strange, Esq., to inform you that the Treaty which was entered into by the above gentlemen and ourselves, on the one part, and by the Kings, Chiefs, and natives of Old Calabar, on the other part, and bearing date 15th February, 1851 (the particular clauses alluded to are stated below), has been violated, inasmuch as at the death of a Chief in February last year, many human lives were sacrificed, and other inhuman outrages committed.

The clauses of the above-named Treaty referred to are the 6th and 7th, viz.:

Clause 6th. "That the law abolishing human sacrifices be hereby confirmed."

Clause 7th. "That in event of the infringement of any Article of this Treaty, or of the law abolishing human sacrifices, application for redress shall be made by the injured party to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, through any British resident on the spot."

In compliance with the above, we deem it our duty to lay this before you, as should these violations and outrages go unredressed, they will doubtless lead to others more aggravated, if possible.

We are, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. CALVERT.
PETER CROMPTON.
J. BOAK.
EDMUND DAVIES.
J. CUTHBERTSON.
GEORGE A. LEWIS.
WM. WOODFINE.
JOHN HOLMES.
T. W. F. STERN.
JAMES GEOFFRY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 122.

The Masters and Supercargoes in the Bonny River to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Calabar River, January 18, 1855.

WE the undersigned masters and supercargoes of British vessels trading in this river, do hereby certify upon honour, that the village named Old Town in this river has been for many years the scene of diabolical murders, and poisoning by the chop-nut, *alias* poison nut.

There is no trade whatever carried on in it; and we are fully of opinion that from the great number of natives who were murdered or poisoned at the death of the late Chief, Willy Tom, such scenes will never cease until some very strong and decisive measures are taken.

And we are further of opinion, that the total destruction of that place would be of great benefit to the other towns, to the advancement of civilization, and be the means of deterring them from the use of the poison nut, and such foul murders, the inhabitants of that village (Old Town) having defied us in our endeavours to prevent such scenes of bloodshed.

Trusting that some energetic measures will be taken before you leave this river, we are, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. CALVERT.
EDWARD DAVIES.
J. CUTHBERTSON.
PETER CROMPTON.
JOHN S. MORGAN.
GEORGE ALEX. LEWIS.
J. BOAK.
JOHN HOLMES.
WM. WOODFINE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 122.

The Rev. W. Anderson to Acting Consul Lynslager.

(Extract.)

Mission House, Duke Town, January 15, 1855.

I WAS this morning favoured with your circular to the Scottish missionaries in Old Calabar, and having perused it, forwarded it to my brethren. I expect to meet with them to-morrow morning, and it is not unlikely that we may collectively have some matters to lay before you.

I have not at present any private or personal complaint to prefer against any of the natives of Old Calabar. I should rejoice were you to aid in forwarding the work of civilization among them, by your condemnation of the horrid practices of twin murders and the ordeal of the poison nut, both of which still prevail. Three persons died under the ordeal at Henshaw Town on a Sabbath-day a few weeks ago; and so late as the 6th instant, Duke Ephraim administered the ordeal of the nut to several persons, of whom it is reported that four died. I am the more particular in stating these things, because some of the natives say that the late Consul Beecroft allowed them to continue the use of the "essere," (poison bean,) it being an old fashion among them. They must have misapprehended some statement of his, and I humbly suggest that an effectual way of disabusing their minds of the mistake, would be for you to use your powerful influence against the practices referred to.

Inclosure 6 in No. 122.

The Rev. G. Edgerley to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Town, Old Calabar, January 16, 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your courteous communication to the Scottish missionaries, and in reply beg to call your attention to the following statement:—

1. That in defiance of the engagements made by the officials of the Calabar with the Europeans trading and resident in the river, that human sacrifices and murders should be abolished, Duke Ephraim and the gentlemen of Duke Town caused a proclamation to be made at Old Town, that if Willy Tom, the King of the town, died, all the inhabitants should be compelled to take the poison-nut.

2. That Willy Tom died, and fearful murders of about fifty individuals was the result.

3. That this breach of good faith has never been redressed by any of the authorities of the country, and that the murderers are allowed to go at large with impunity.

4. That an attempt at intimidation or violence was made by some sixty armed men, inhabitants of Old Town, on my person and premises, which has never been redressed by the authorities of the town or country.

5. That a free person, a member of our church, was knocked down in Old Town, and his clothes torn off his back, because he was not one of the Egbo fraternity, and is an inmate of my family.

6. That I hold possession of a half-free Calaberman, named Atem Tonisu, a refugee, whose life is voted to destruction to the manes of the deceased King Willy Tom, and for no crime whatever, and in defiance of the engagements to abolish human sacrifices.

7. That I have made out manumission papers, together with other individuals, of certain refugees and others who have been manumitted by us, and request the sanction and recognition of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to their unconditional freedom.

8. That one of the principal individuals implicated amongst others is named Ephraim Cobham, the representative of the family of the deceased Willy Tom.

9. That I have no protection from any party in the country from any violence or outrage, and therefore, as a British subject, most respectfully claim the protection of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for this river.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL EDGERLEY.

EAST COAST OF AFRICA STATION.

No. 123.

Commodore Talbot to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received April 21.)

Sir,

“Mæander,” in Simon’s Bay, January 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with reference to Article 3, page 7, of the Slave Trade Instructions, that the Commanders of Her Majesty’s ships employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the east coast of Africa, report that they have not been able to obtain any information connected with the Slave Trade during the past half-year.

Her Majesty’s sloop “Penguin” returned to Simon’s Bay on the 20th instant, after an absence in the Mozambique channel of nine months, during which period, though constantly cruising, she only boarded four vessels under foreign colours, as will be seen from the returns duly transmitted; three under Portuguese colours, belonging to the port of Mozambique, and one under Hamburgh colours, all of which proved to be legal traders.

Although no captures have been made for now nearly eighteen months, and although no direct information has been obtained on the spot concerning the state of the Traffic, yet I cannot therefore conclude that the Slave Trade has ceased to exist in the Mozambique. The absence of captures I consider but slightly affects the question; for I am inclined to think that in most cases the fact of a capture has been a matter of accident, rather than the result of information obtained. When the very large extent of coast is considered which has to be guarded by so small a number of cruisers, and when it is remembered, as is asserted, that there is not a single individual along the whole line of coast who is not in some way benefited by the existence of the Traffic, it becomes evident that the chances of escape must be great, and the difficulty of obtaining honest and reliable information of no small amount. It is seldom that the requirements of the service admit of more than two out of the three cruisers on this station, including the “Mæander’s” tender the “Dart,” being in the Mozambique at the same time; and the position of only two vessels can generally be pretty accurately assumed, and thus arrangements are made to elude them. I certainly do not believe that the exportation of slaves from the east coast of Africa, at the present time, is so large as it was some years back; but it is difficult to arrive at any correct conclusion, for to keep up an effectual blockade along a line of coast extending from Delagoa Bay to beyond Zanzibar, a distance of 1,300 miles, is hardly possible with the small force at my disposal.

I am happy to say that the present quiet state of the Cape Colony has enabled me to send the “Hydra” to the Mozambique, as reported in my letter of the 10th instant; and thus, with the “Nerbudda” and “Dart,” there are at present three vessels on the coast; but the “Hydra” and “Dart” must both return to the Cape about the beginning of April, as it is my intention then to proceed on a cruise in the “Mæander;” and

Commander Morris will have to undertake the duties of senior officer at the Cape during my absence, and the crew of the "Dart" will be required to return to their ship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES TALBOT.

No. 124.

Commander Morris to Commodore Talbot.

Sir,
"Hydra," at Sea, Lat. 15° 54' S., Long. 41° E.,
February 8, 1854.

1. I HAVE the honour to inform you that at daylight this morning, when steering for Mozambique, we bore up south-by-east to close a schooner then about eight miles off. We hoisted our colours, and when within about four miles we fired a blank gun to make the stranger show hers.

2. With the wind westerly, she was standing across our bows, close hauled on the port tack; when about a mile and a-half from us she hoisted a Portuguese ensign. I doubted her having a right to that flag, and that it was only used as a *ruse* to avoid being searched; she had new fore and aft sails well cut. It would have been to risk missing her if we had tried to run alongside, and fruitless to hail her, as she appeared to be manned by natives; therefore, when about three-quarters of a mile a-head, we wore round; firing a blank gun to draw attention, we hove to with our head the same way as hers, in a position to get in her way if necessary, for she would sail as fast as ourselves.

3. I sent the Second Lieutenant to ascertain what she was, as in Case 2, page 12, of the Slave Instructions. When he had shoved off, she hove to: he had been on board about two or three minutes, when I saw him from the ship standing between her masts, and he appeared to be looking into her hold. I thought he was overstepping his orders, which, however, was not the case, as his accompanying statement will show; I therefore went on board immediately, intending, as he kept his flag up, to search him. I produced the necessary documents to the master, and asked the name of his vessel; he said it was the "4th of April." I knew there had been a Portuguese cruiser of that name out here, and on inquiry I gathered that the vessel was really a Portuguese Government vessel, and freighted by a merchant at present.

4. I made them understand that, as she had hoisted no pendant, I could not be aware of her being a Government cruiser; I then left her, having given the certificate ordered in the Instructions, page 110, and also a note in addition, saying "the vessel had been visited by me, not knowing her to belong to the Portuguese Government, as she showed no pendant; that no search had been made, a lieutenant having preceded me to ascertain what she was, but no English was understood, and the master lifted the hatches without being asked."

5. The master appeared the only European on board, and no one wore any kind of uniform.

6. I beg herewith to inclose a copy of Lieutenant Comber's statement of the circumstances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. MORRIS.

Inclosure in No. 124.

Statement of Lieutenant Comber.

I BOARDED the schooner "4th of April," under Portuguese colours, for the purpose of ascertaining what she was. On my arrival on board, I made the usual inquiries, but had great difficulty in making myself understood, as no one on board spoke English, and I could not obtain any information as to her being a legal trader. In the meantime, the captain produced his papers, and opened his hatches, as I suppose he imagined that to be my object. I have to state that the captain was not dissatisfied with my proceedings. Commander Morris at that time came on board, with the necessary documents, and understanding that she was a Government vessel freighted by a Portuguese merchant, quitted her after giving the usual certificate, with a note at the bottom.

Dated on board the "Hydra," at Sea, February 8, 1854.

(Signed) G. M. COMBER, *Acting Lieutenant.*

No. 125.

Commander Morris to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received November 1.)

(Extract.)

"Hydra," August 29, 1854.

THE "Nerbudda" sailed for the Mozambique on the 18th instant, with orders to visit Johanna, and aid Mr. Consul Sunley in forming Anti-Slave Trade Treaties with the Chiefs of Comoro and Mohilla; then to proceed to Mozambique and Angoza, in furtherance of their Lordships' wishes relative to a letter of Lord Clarendon's, dated 28th April last.

BRAZIL STATION.

No. 126.

*Rear-Admiral Johnstone to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received
November 1.)*

(Extract.)

October 3, 1854.

COMMANDER BOYS, of the "Express," who has been cruising between this and Rio Grande de Norte, a few miles south of Cape St. Roque, reports that there is no appearance of slaving or privateering being now carried on ; and Her Majesty's Acting Consul at Bahia informs me that everything is tranquil in this province, and that British interests are in a satisfactory condition.

NORTH AMERICA AND WEST INDIA
STATION.

No. 127.

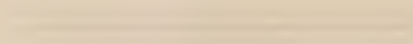
Rear-Admiral Fanshawe to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—
(Received August 30.)

(Extract.)

Halifax, August 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a return of a vessel without papers or colours, detained by Her Majesty's sloop "Espiègle," on the coast of Cuba, on the 27th June, for being engaged in the Slave Trade.

This vessel being claimed by the Spanish authorities, was given up to them by Commander Hancock, but, by the subsequent decision of his Excellency the Captain-General of Cuba, was awarded as a prize to the "Espiègle."



Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

BRITISH MINISTERS AND AGENTS

IN

FOREIGN COUNTRIES,

AND WITH

FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From April 1, 1854, to March 31, 1855.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1855.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Benin.*

No. 1.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, March 27, 1854.

A PORTUGUESE brig, the "Calabar," arrived at this roadstead on the 25th instant, direct from Lisbon in twenty-eight days. The master, Petta, reports that several vessels are being fitted out in Cuba and the United States, for slave adventures on the coast; the people engaged in Slave Traffic expecting that the greater part of the squadron will be withdrawn in consequence of the war with Russia.

There is an American barque, called the "*Carrier Pidgeon*," formerly a steam-vessel, now lying off Whydah; she is offered for sale to the slave-traders at that place, and will no doubt be bought by them in conjunction with Domingo Martins of Porto Novo.

This vessel, it is said, brought over the proceeds of the slaves shipped in the "*Manuelita*," and other vessels from Aghwey and Little Popoe last year; as there are many doubloons now in circulation at the ports in the Bight of Benin, there is very little doubt that such is the fact. In the mean time, the "*Carrier Pidgeon*" is lying off Whydah with a ground tier of casks apparently filled with palm oil; I say apparently, for I feel certain that, although the casks are smeared with palm oil, and it may be seen when the bungs of the cask are removed, it is merely a few gallons of oil which is floating on the top of the water, and which can be pumped off whenever required.

The Portuguese schooner "*Veloz*," was lying off Whydah some few weeks since under these suspicious circumstances, and she has since disappeared and is not to be heard of.

I have recommended the commanders of Her Majesty's cruisers, that with those vessels laying thus suspiciously, over which we can by Treaty exercise the right of search, a pump should be used to ascertain the real contents of the casks.

In addition to the "*Veloz*," I fear the Sardinian brigantine "*Fulmine*," that has been running from port to port in the Bight of Benin for several months, and is now not to be heard of, has also got off with a cargo of slaves.

Your Lordship may depend on my preventing the revival of the Slave Trade at this place. I fear, however, that Kosoko, with his Cabooceer at Epé, will be again engaging in this traffic, as Senhor Lima, who, after the attack on Jaboo by the Egbas, was the only slave-trader remaining with Kosoko, has been reinforced by two of his co-traffickers in human beings from Whydah; they were landed about a month since from a French cutter, tender to the French factory at Whydah.

The movements of these people shall be watched as far as it is possible to do so, there being only one vessel, the "Arab," stationary in the Bights; the services of the "Plumper" and "Antelope" being required elsewhere.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 2.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th March last,* acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government entirely approved of my having promised, under certain conditions, to afford my protection to those Africans who, having purchased their emancipation from slavery in Brazil, have settled in Lagos.

It is gratifying to me to have received the approval of Her Majesty's Government in this matter, as it armed me with authority to interfere on behalf of 230 of these self-emancipated Africans, lately brought to Lagos from Rio Janeiro and Bahia, in the Portuguese three-masted vessel "Linda Flor," the supercargo of which vessel persisting in retaining on board the vessel, for the balance of \$1,000 freight, due to him by the emancipated Africans, property of theirs remaining on board, to three times that amount in value; and with which it was strongly suspected he intended to make off.

I am informed there are numbers of self-emancipated Africans in the principal towns in Brazil, who were formerly shipped from the ports in the Bight of Benin, most anxious to come to Lagos: on the one hand they are urged by the Government to emigrate; on the other they are restrained by the exorbitant exactions of the Government officials, and the difficulty of obtaining a passage across except by Portuguese vessels, on board of which they receive the worst treatment, and are not free from the risk of being landed against their will at Whydah, or some other place where they would immediately be seized, reduced to slavery again, and the property on board the vessel become the possession of the Portuguese captain or supercargo.

Under these circumstances, I respectfully submit to your Lordship whether Her Majesty's Consuls in the principal ports in Brazil could not, by their interposition, smooth the way towards these poor people obtaining a passage across to Lagos, without suffering so many exactions, and incurring the risk of being plundered of their property, and again reduced to slavery.

There are at Bahia and Rio Janeiro always English vessels seeking for freight; now these poor people will always pay, by their passage-money and the property they bring across with them, a remunerating freight; and any English vessel, during the months from February to August, will be sure of a freight of palm-oil from this port to England. At this moment there are upwards of 1,000 puncheons of palm-oil on Lagos beach, ready for shipment, and several hundred more in the town also ready, and there are no vessels to charter; the mail-packets, from their irregularity, and the manner in which they are conducted, being useless to the commerce of the place, beyond the medium of correspondence they afford.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 59.

No. 3.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 4.*)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

WHEN I was at Porto Novo, which town is on the confines of the Dahomian territory, I took the opportunity of notifying to King Gezo my appointment as Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin; and, at the same time, I alluded to the embarkation of slaves which took place some months since from the beach near to Whydah.

Copy of my letter to King Gezo I have now the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 3.

*Consul Campbell to the King of Dahomey.**King's Town, Porto Novo, April 13, 1854.*

BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Esquire, the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, being at the King's Town, Porto Novo, takes the opportunity and this means of sending his respectful compliments to the King of Dahomey.

The Consul being specially charged by the Government of Her Majesty to watch over the faithful observance of the Treaties concluded by the different Chiefs with Her Majesty, whose territories lay between Cape St. Paul's and Cape Formosa, deeply regrets to have to inform the King of Dahomey, that it has come to the knowledge of the Consul that shipments of slaves have taken place near to Whydah, within the last eight months.

The Queen's Government, reposing every confidence in the King of Dahomey, is sure that the King will use his utmost authority to prevent any infraction of the Treaty the King concluded for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Captain Forbes on behalf of Her Majesty. The Consul therefore begs that the King will issue the most positive orders to his Chiefs at Whydah and the other ports in the King's dominions, to prevent the embarkation of slaves. The Consul wishes the King health and peace, and a long life of happiness.

No. 4.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 4.*)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 7th March last,* approving of my having advised the Chiefs of Abbeokuta to send a headman with an armed force to reside at Lagos for the protection of their trading countrymen, and directing me to use my best endeavours to obtain the release of those Egbas captured near Lagos in the month of December last by Kosoko's soldiers who may still remain in the hands of Kosoko's people.

I shall not fail, my Lord, to use every effort for this purpose. In the meantime I have made application to the Rev. Mr. Crowther for information, several of the captured Egbas having been redeemed by their relatives and returned home; and I took advantage of some messengers from Kosoko and his Cabooceers coming to the Consulate a few days since, to send to those Chiefs on no account to sell any of the Egbas remaining in their hands; and I

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 58.

purpose after returning from Badagry and Porto Novo to visit Epé, with the view of getting the Egbas still in captivity there restored to liberty, if not unconditionally, at any rate on easy terms of ransom to their families.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 5.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 9th of March last,* acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government approved of my having, accompanied by Lieutenant Bedingfeld, met the Chiefs belonging to Kosoko for the purpose of negotiating peace between them and the King and Chiefs of Lagos.

The approval of Her Majesty's Government of my proceedings in this matter, is most gratifying and encouraging to me.

No. 6.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 30, 1854.

I REGRET to have to inform your Lordship that on the 16th instant, a brig, hoisting no national colours, ran into the roadstead of Whydah between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, and about 1 o'clock on the same afternoon sailed with about 700 slaves which had been embarked from the beach of Whydah town. I have good information, on which I can rely, that a few days subsequently the Portuguese schooner "*Aguia*" (detained last year off Aghwey by Lieutenant Beresford, commanding Her Majesty's brigantine "*Spy*," and sent by him to St. Paul de Loanda for adjudication, but restored by the Court of Mixed Commission) also carried off upwards of 300 slaves from Whydah beach.

The embarkation of slaves on board the brig took place in the most bare-faced manner. There were laying at anchor in the roadstead and close to the slave brig, an English barque, the name of which I have not learnt; the English schooner "*Elizabeth*," of Sierra Leone, Mr. Davis, master, with the Rev. Messrs. Freeman and Wharton from the Gold Coast on board as passengers, bound on a mission to the King of Dahomey, who must have witnessed the painful sight; and three French vessels attached to the French factory at Whydah.

The slave brig must have had her equipment complete, as Mr. Davis, the master of the "*Elizabeth*," declares he saw no water or provisions hoisted into the brig, only slaves, which were passed on board from the canoes as they were brought alongside.

There are on the Bights Station, at this time, but two cruizers (Her Majesty's ship "*Arab*" being ordered to the West Indies), Her Majesty's ship "*Crane*" and Her Majesty's ship "*Antelope*." The latter, in consequence of the breaking down of the "*Faith*," contract mail-steamer packet, has been taken off the station for a month in order to convey the mail brought by the "*Faith*" as far as Sierra Leone, to Fernando Po and the Bights of Biafra.

I am credibly informed that Domingo Martins expects shortly a vessel fully equipped to take off a cargo of his slaves. He will hardly dare to make the shipment from Porto Novo, at which place he has no less than six large English vessels loading with palm oil, and at Apé Vista, another of his establishments, two more English vessels, and one under a foreign flag, I believe Portuguese. The aggregate tonnage of the eight vessels cannot be less than 3,000 tons.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 63.

P.S.—*June 7.* In a note I have just received from Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," under date "Off Badagry, June 5, 1854," he states, "I stood into Whydah on the afternoon of the 15th, boarded everything, exchanged colours with the American brig 'Spread Eagle' off Great Popoe, and she was off by noon next day with nearly 700."

No. 7.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, June 1, 1854.

AFTER the termination of the civil war in Lagos in the month of August last, and when tranquillity was restored and trade had resumed its course, it was found that the Commercial Agreement entered into between the late King Akitoye and the merchants and supercargoes trading at Lagos, did not work well, particularly that Article of the Agreement which imposed a duty of 3 per cent. on the merchandize imported; some of the merchandize so imported being afterwards exported intact to other parts of the coast, and the King's people insisting on opening bales and other packages in order to see their contents.

With a view to put an end to the differences continually arising between the King's people appointed to collect the revenue and the merchants, and to facilitate and render easy the collection of the revenue, I proposed to the King and to the merchants that the import duty should be altogether abolished, and the export duty raised to a point to meet the loss of that on imports.

The King and the merchants, after a few conferences on the subject, adopted my suggestion, and it was accordingly arranged that, for the future, there should be a duty on all palm oil exported of two heads of cowries the puncheon, and three strings of cowries (equal at present to 2*d.* sterling) per lb. of ivory, and a moderate duty on other exports which at present are of trifling amount.

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the new Commercial Agreement entered into between King Docemo and the merchants and supercargoes trading to Lagos, which came into operation on the 27th March last.

The working of this new arrangement should be very satisfactory to King Docemo, as by a return now before me of export duties paid between the 27th March and 31st May, it appears that the King has received during that period no less than 3,744 heads of cowries, the head of cowrie bearing a value equal now to 4*s.* sterling; but this amount is short of what it would have been had there been a sufficiency of shipping, as there are on the beach and in the town about 1,500 puncheons of palm oil waiting shipment.

The export duty is by no means the only source of revenue enjoyed by the King. He has his market dues, which must be considerable, and a further duty on the import of the oil into Lagos, besides fines and confiscations, which together will reach at least half the amount of the duty received annually on exports; making a total of about 50,000 heads of cowries annually.

There is another great and economical advantage to the King that, whereas during the Slave Trade time, that horrid Traffic being confined to the King, his chiefs and principal people, they were all under the necessity of feeding their numerous slaves and dependents; now, all these of an adult age are able, by trading in palm oil and other articles, to maintain themselves, and it is only the favourite wives and the slave children who are now fed by them.

I am informed by those competent to form an opinion on the subject, that revenue to be derived by King Docemo through the palm oil and other legitimate trade will far exceed any revenue ever derived heretofore in Lagos from Slave Trade; and I look forward, my Lord, to the prospect that wherever the Slave Trade is quelled, and the disputes and wars arising out of it are succeeded by peace and security, that the Chiefs will find themselves gainers by the great increase of revenue a regular and uninterrupted trade in palm oil and other productions will produce. Even the King of Dahomey, if he would make up his

mind to expel from his territories the nest of slave-traders who now harbour at Whydah, and prevent a full development of the legitimate traffic the Kingdom of Dahomey is capable of producing, would find himself a gainer by abandoning the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Agreement made between King Docemo and the Merchants and Supercargoes trading at Lagos, commencing March 27, 1854.

WHEREAS, at a conference held between King Docemo and the merchants and supercargoes of the ships in the roads, it was deemed expedient, for raising a revenue for the King and for the effectual protection of trade, to form a mutual agreement, and the following Articles were considered by all parties to be equitable, and were this day accepted :

1st. That in consideration of the King giving protection and assistance to the merchants, and observing the following Articles, they consented to pay a duty of two heads of cowries to him on every puncheon containing 120 gallons of palm oil exported from Lagos.

2nd. That to prevent the occurrence, as far as possible, of fire and theft, no native shall be allowed to erect a house on the east point of the river entrance, where the merchants' stores are situated.

3rd. That the King consents to relinquish trading on his own account.

4th. That no merchant's trade shall at any time be stopped on any account whatever, except for directly refusing to pay the duties hereby agreed to be paid to the King.

5th. Any native taking credit from a merchant, and being unable or unwilling to pay, shall not be allowed to trade until he shall have come to a satisfactory arrangement with his creditors ; and the King will, on hearing and deciding on the justice of the creditor's claims, sell or cause to be sold the house and property of such party, for the benefit of his creditors. Any merchant or trader doing business with such debtor before an arrangement has been made, shall be subject to a fine of 1,000 gallons of palm oil, to be paid to the King.

6th. That the merchants settling at Lagos shall be allowed to choose their own places of residence in any spot previously unoccupied, or which they may purchase from any previous occupant.

7th. The King engages to exercise his authority to punish and use the utmost vigilance to prevent the constant thefts committed on the merchants, whether by canoemen and others employed by them, or by any person inhabiting the town, and on any complaint or charge made by the merchants against any person robbing them, or for receiving knowingly property stolen from them, being proved, the King engages to punish such thief or receiver of stolen goods with heavy fine or imprisonment.

8th. That on any well-founded complaint by the merchants against canoe-men or others who have engaged to work for a merchant for a time agreed upon for refusing to do such work, without any just cause for refusal, the King engages to inflict such punishments, by fine or imprisonment, as the case may deserve.

9th. That the King shall have the right of claiming payment of his duties in cowries.

No. 8.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 4.*)

My Lord,

Lagos, June 2, 1854.

BY the last packet there arrived here 2 self-emancipated Africans from the Havana, with their wives, who had, I believe, made the voyage by way of England to Sierra Leone. They brought me a letter from his Excellency Governor Kennedy, recommending them to my care.

I have obtained them a house, and shall request the King to allot them a piece of ground, whereon to erect a house of their own.

These Africans have informed some of their countrymen whom they found here—also formerly from Havana—that their friends and fellow-countrymen in that city, to the number of about 200, who have emancipated themselves, and who have the means of paying their passage across to Lagos, are most desirous of coming here, now they know that there is a British Consul resident at Lagos, who will protect them from being plundered and again reduced to slavery.

They state that although the Local Government of Cuba are anxious to get rid of them, yet they are subject, when emigrating, to great extortions in the shape of fees to the Government officials, and that the countenance and assistance of Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana would greatly facilitate their emigrating to Lagos. They have got some friend here to write a letter for them to a friend in Havana, which they beg me to forward; having no sure means of doing so, I have taken upon myself to transmit the same, in the hope that your Lordship will direct the letter to be sent to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, with directions that he will be kind enough to render every assistance in his power to those self-emancipated Africans in Cuba who were formerly shipped from this part of the coast, and are now desirous of returning to Lagos.

It is very desirable, if possible, that these people should make the passage from the Havana to Lagos in an English vessel, in order to secure good treatment on the voyage; such vessel, during the months from February to the end of August, will be sure of obtaining a freight of palm oil to England.

The addition of these self-emancipated Africans from the Brazils and from Cuba, to the population of Lagos, is a great desideratum, as, by their habits of industry, and their semi-civilized manners and condition, they form a good counterpoise to the leaven of the old Slave Trade population of this place, as they will remain apart and unmixed with its old feuds and animosities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 9.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 4.*)

(Extract.)

Lagos, June 1, 1854.

SHORTLY after my arrival at my post, I received a letter from Mayoo, the Chief of Badagry, informing me that he expected an attack from the King of Porto Novo, who was anxious to restore the expelled Chiefs of Badagry to their town.

I wrote to the King of Porto Novo, requesting him to defer his hostile intentions against Mayoo, telling him that as soon as I could spare the time I would proceed to Badagry and to Porto Novo, and endeavour to arrange matters peaceably.

Various causes prevented me leaving Lagos for Badagry and Porto Novo, until the 2nd of April. In the meantime Mayoo's Slave Trade transactions, and the assistance he was openly rendering to Domingo Martins, in procuring slaves for him, became known to me, and were duly reported by me to your Lordship, and to the Commander-in-chief; and I made myself acquainted, through the printed correspondence on Slave Trade, and the local sources of information within my reach, with the origin, causes, and history of the disturbances which had occurred at Badagry, which led to the expulsion of the rightful Chiefs of that town, and

of several other populous towns and villages in the country around Badagry; and the substituting of Mayoo, a refugee from Porto Novo, and previously living at Badagry on sufferance, through the kindness of the expelled Chiefs.

On my arrival at Badagry, I invited the principal inhabitants of the town to meet me, as I wished to learn their sentiments, and to inform them, that Mayoo having grossly violated the Treaty, and by so doing having incurred the severe displeasure of Her Majesty's Government, and, his being considered Chief of Badagry, having led to the complete stoppage of the trade, compelling the merchants, missionaries, and all the industrious traders to abandon the town, it became necessary, as a warning to the other water-side Chiefs, that they would not be allowed to violate their Treaty engagements for the suppression of the Slave Trade concluded with Her Majesty, with impunity, and in order to restore the trade to Badagry, to remove Mayoo from the Chieftainship, and to restore the expelled Chiefs and their people, who were the original and rightful owners of the town and the territories belonging to it; and that I should, after visiting the King of Porto Novo and the expelled Chiefs, and learning their wishes and intentions, call upon Mayoo to retire; and, in the event of his refusing to do so peaceably, endeavour to obtain the assistance of the senior officer of the Bights division, and compel him to remove.

In reply to this, they entered into a long account how Mayoo had supported British interests and protected the English during the civil war, &c., and they concluded with expressing their wish for Mayoo to remain. At this meeting there were only Mayoo's immediate followers, about eighty, who were implicated with him in the revolt he had raised several years before against his Sovereign the King of Porto Novo, and who fled with him, and had since stuck to his fortunes; about fifty Lagos people, who could have no voice in the matter, and some half-dozen liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, who being deeply indebted to the English merchants, formerly at Badagry, would not follow them to Lagos, but preferred existing in indolence on the labour of their slaves.

I next proceeded to Porto Novo, and had an interview with the King and a numerous body of his Chiefs and principal people. He stated to me that he was very anxious for the restoration of the Badagry Chiefs and their numerous followers to their town; that the grossest injustice had been done by their expulsion, which had been caused by the very people to whom they had kindly given shelter, Mayoo and Akitoye; that the former had some twenty years previously headed a rebellion against one of his predecessors, which had brought great misery and distress to thousands, but ended in the expulsion of Mayoo; that, from the time that had elapsed, he felt no ill-will towards Mayoo, and he would willingly receive him back to his old post of Mayoo (the name is a title), which had never been filled up, and that he (the King) would even assist him to build his house; that so long as Mayoo remained Chief of Badagry, and the proper Chiefs, his relatives and countrymen, were wanderers on the face of the earth, he could allow none of the trade which the town of Porto Novo commanded to go to Badagry, to enrich and elevate a man who would exercise the power he obtained through that trade, in bribing the Egbas to attack him; that the Egbas had already attacked many of the towns within his dominions, laying them waste, making captives of the unfortunate inhabitants, many of whom they sent to their farms at Abbeokuta, selling the others to Domingo Martins; that he wished to cultivate the friendship of the English; and if Mayoo was removed from the Chieftainship of Badagry, and the rightful Chiefs and people restored, he would then direct the large trade in palm oil, the monopoly of which Domingo Martins now enjoys, on to Badagry; that he had no friendship for Domingo or any of his countrymen; and that he knew his subjects would make much more advantageous trade with the English at Badagry than they did with Domingo Martins at Porto Novo; that very few of the expelled Badagrians were then in Porto Novo, as they were compelled to wander about seeking for a livelihood, but that he would assemble as many as he could of the principal people in four days, as he was desirous that I should see them, and hear what they had to relate, and their wishes from their own lips.

I left Porto Novo for Badagry and returned on the fourth day, when I had a long and interesting interview with the Badagry Chiefs, who feelingly described the position they were placed in through having given shelter, first to Mayoo, and subsequently to Akitoye; that they were separated from their children, many of whom were receiving instruction at the missionary schools when their expulsion

took place, and they were now wandering about the town of Porto Novo, living on the bounty of their friends; that they were most desirous to return to the home of their fathers, and they earnestly entreated me to assist them to do so. I left, assuring them I would do all in my power to procure their restoration to Badagry.

On my return to Lagos I called at Badagry and sought an interview with Mayoo, and, on the morning of my departure, sent for him twice; he did not come, and as the day was advancing I had to leave without seeing him.

No. 10.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 4.*)

(Extract.)

Lagos, June 11, 1854.

FEARING from the temper in which the Rev. Mr. Townsend left Badagry that he would, on his return to Abbeokuta, so represent the matter of Mayoo's removal from thence to the Chiefs of Abbeokuta as to induce them to attack the Popoe towns and villages, as they did on a former occasion, under the pretext of assisting Mayoo and Badagry—indeed it was reported to me that Mr. Townsend on his journey back to Abbeokuta, greatly alarmed the inhabitants of the towns and villages that lay in his route, by telling them that as soon as the Consul expelled Mayoo the Egbas would be down on the unfortunate villagers (who had nothing to do in the matter), and that he had diverged from his route to go to the large town of Adu to beg of the Chiefs not to molest the Egbas on their march towards Badagry—I dispatched Mr. Moses to Porto Novo in my whale-boat, with a letter addressed to him, the contents of which he was to make known to the King of that town, in whose peaceable disposition and reasonableness I had great confidence; copy of which letter I do myself the honour to transmit.

Mr. Moses, on his return to Badagry, forwarded me a letter from the King of Porto Novo, waiving the question of Mayoo's removal from Badagry, but leaving the responsibility of his remaining there on my shoulders. Copy of this letter I have the honour also to transmit.

I did not hesitate to incur this responsibility, as one of Mayoo's principal supporters who had left Porto Novo with him, has since returned to that town, despite Mayoo's offers and entreaties, and was kindly received by the King; another of his followers ('tis said a relative) committed suicide.

Judging that the King of Porto Novo's kind treatment to the revolted vassal who had returned to his allegiance, would have its effect on many others when the expelled Badagry Chiefs should be reinstated, I addressed a letter to Mayoo; copy of which I do myself the honour to forward to your Lordship.

After waiting several days, I received a letter from Mayoo, which has evidently been drawn up by his friends at Abbeokuta. A copy of this letter I transmit, and I hope that my efforts to restore the Badagry Chiefs to their homes, from which they were most unjustly expelled, and in doing so, restore Badagry to its former, indeed I hope to a far greater, commercial importance, will meet with your Lordship's approval.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Consul Campbell to Mayoo, Chief of Badagry.

Mayoo,

Lagos, June 1, 1854.

THE King of Porto Novo having left the matter of your remaining at Badagry entirely to me, I now acquaint you that having no personal ill feeling towards you, and having acted, in endeavouring to remove you from Badagry, from a sense of duty in consequence of the part you have taken in assisting Domingo Martins' Slave Trade, which I duly reported to Her Majesty's Government and to the Admiral Commanding-in-chief Her Majesty's naval forces in this coast, I shall not press for your leaving Badagry. But it must be understood that when the expelled Chiefs return to Badagry, you, and they all,

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resume the same ranks and offices you held before the civil broke out. Above all it must be understood that peace is made between you, and that all and every one must forget what has passed, forgive each other, and for the future live in peace and good brotherhood, and by abstaining altogether from any Slave Trade transactions, promote to the utmost the innocent trade in palm oil and other native productions; for in such peaceful pursuits, and the profit, contentment, and happiness they will produce, you will all learn to forget the wrongs and injuries you have suffered at each other's hands, and you will one and all find me a faithful and true friend.

Let me know by letter if you are satisfied with my arrangements for restoring peace and trade to Badagry.

Your well-wisher,
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Mayoo, Chief of Badagry, to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Badagry, June 10, 1854.

IN answer to your letter of June 1st, which I had the honour to receive, I beg permission to observe that I have consulted my friends and supporters the Egbas, and under their advice I am fully prepared to receive back the old Chiefs of Badagry.

As the return of so many Chiefs and their followers may be attended by some confusion and danger of misunderstanding, I would respectfully suggest that some written arrangement should be drawn up, which, in the event of any future disagreements, may be referred to, and for the general guidance of all parties.

I beg also most respectfully to observe, that I shall be ready when these arrangements take effect, to give up the Treaty with the British Government I have the honour to hold, with the understanding that in any Treaty with the British Government, my name shall appear with the other Chiefs of Badagry.

It is suggested by the Egba Chiefs that no stranger, being a refugee Chief, be received into Badagry after this but with the common consent of all concerned, including yourself and the Egba Chiefs.

Thanking you for your letter, and your efforts to make peace between us, I have, &c.

(Signed) MAYOO ^{his} ~~mark~~.
mark.

No. 11.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, June 14, 1854.

THE squadron in the Bights is now reduced to one vessel, Her Majesty's ship "Crane," which left for Fernando Po for water on the 12th instant. Her Majesty's ship "Arab" has left for the Cuba station, and Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope" for Gibraltar.

Yesterday morning the French brig-of-war "Entreprenant," commanded by Capitaine de corvette M. Du Creste Villeneuve, anchored in the roads.

The weather has been so bad that I have not been able as yet to see Captain Villeneuve, but he this morning sent in an officer with a note, informing me that he is to cruize in the Bights. I hope to-morrow morning if the weather should be fine to see him to breakfast, after which I will accompany him on his visit to King Docemo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 12.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 4th of May,* I have to state to you that I approve the measures which you intended taking with the view of obtaining the liberation of the Egbas captured by Kosoko in December last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON

No. 13.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, September 21, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 1st and 11th of June, giving an account of the proceedings which you had thought proper to take for the removal of Mayoo from his position as Chief of Badagry, I have to observe that you have received no instruction from Her Majesty's Government which will bear you out in the course which you have thus adopted.

You will, on the contrary, see, by reference to Lord Wodehouse's letter to the Secretary to the Admiralty of the 27th of April, 1853, a copy of which was transmitted to you in my despatch of the 28th of that month, that Her Majesty's Government disapproved a similar attempt which had been made by Vice-Consul Fraser in January 1853, and that British authorities would act improperly in interfering in the local quarrels and proceedings of the African Chiefs, unless such proceedings affected British interests or the stipulations of Treaties.

You will have seen by my despatch of the 7th of December, 1853,† that Her Majesty's Government disapproved of your suggestion that the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty concluded with Mayoo on the 18th of March, 1852, should be annulled; and therefore I am at a loss to understand how you could have stated that you had made a formal demand on Mayoo to deliver up his Treaty; and that, when the expelled people returned, and a supreme Chief was elected and acknowledged, you intended to transfer the Treaty to the newly-elected Chief, and, if necessary, to take stringent measures to compel Mayoo to resign the Treaty held by him.

In the same despatch you were informed that, if the Chief of Badagry should violate any of the stipulations of the Treaty held by Mayoo, it would be the duty of the Commander-in-chief on the West African Station to direct that measures of coercion should be adopted, in order to enforce the due observance of that Treaty.

You seem, however, to have acted against Mayoo without any concert with the naval authorities on the station; and I have to state to you that I highly disapprove of your having done so.

You will explain to me, without loss of time, your conduct with reference to the several points above alluded to.

No. 14.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 21, 1854.

WITH reference to my preceding despatch of this day's date, I have to remark that I have some difficulty in reconciling the friendly tone adopted by you towards Alajogun, the King of Porto Novo, with the harsh measures which you are disposed to take against Mayoo, inasmuch as the former appears to harbour slave-dealers, such as Domingo Martinez, who carries on his Traffic in

* No. 4.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 49.

Slaves and palm oil under the protection of Alajogun, while no accusation of the kind is made against Mayoo.

I have also to observe, with reference to your statement that Mayoo had broken his Anti-Slave Trade Treaty, and was therefore a fit object for the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government, that the fact does not seem to be at all clearly proved.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 15.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Lagos, August 1, 1854.

ON the 28th ultimo the United States' frigate "Constitution," bearing the broad pennant of Commodore Mayo, the Commander-in-chief of the United States' naval forces on the West Coast of Africa, anchored in Lagos Roads.

Proceeding, on the following day, to pay my respects to Commodore Mayo, I met, just inside the bar, two boats from the frigate, bringing Flag-Lieutenant Rodgers and a party of officers on a visit to the town. I returned to the town with the officers, and accompanied them on their visit to King Docemo, to whom I introduced them.

Lieutenant Rodgers briefly explained to King Docemo that the object of the Commodore's visit to the coast was the protection of American commerce, and the suppression of Slave Trade carried on by vessels assuming the flag of the United States.

The officers were well received by King Docemo, who expressed himself much pleased with their visit.

Lieutenant Rodgers, before taking leave of King Docemo, assured him that Commodore Mayo, although confined to his cot from a severely-sprained ankle, would be happy to see King Docemo and his Chiefs on board the "Constitution."

Lieutenant Rodgers and the officers who accompanied him, before embarking to return to their ship, walked over a great part of the town of Lagos. The extent, population, cleanliness (they visited the best part), and the order that prevailed, surprised them. I gave Lieutenant Rodgers every information respecting the trade of Lagos, and the prospect of its increase could the Slave Trade be extinguished in other parts of the Bight of Benin.

On the following day several more officers of the Commodore's staff came to the town, visited the King and his Chiefs, and formally invited them to visit the Commodore on the following day.

The report of Lieutenant Rodgers and the officers who accompanied him having created considerable interest, I furnished Commodore Mayo with such information as I possessed, and sent him a spare copy of the "Papers on the Reduction of Lagos;" and I suggested that King Docemo and his Chiefs would favourably receive any proposition from the Commodore to conclude a Treaty with him.

On the next day I paid my official visit to Commodore Mayo, by whom, and by his officers, I was most courteously received, with the usual honours.

King Docemo and his Chiefs also paid their visit to Commodore Mayo. They were received with every demonstration of respect by the Commodore and his officers, and hospitably entertained in the Commodore's cabin.

The Commodore informed King Docemo and his Chiefs that the President and the Government of the United States were very anxious to see the Slave Trade entirely suppressed on the coast of Africa, and a legitimate commerce flourishing in its stead, that having heard there was a considerable commerce springing up in Lagos, and that American trading vessels began to visit the port, he was prepared to submit a proposition in writing to the King and his Chiefs, having for its object the protection of American citizens and their property when trading at Lagos, and conferring to them the same rights and privileges as are or may be conferred to the subjects of other Powers.

The proposition was then twice read over, and carefully interpreted to the King and Chiefs by a Mr. S. B. Williams, one of the Sierra Leone emigrants, who superintends the collection of the King's export revenue, and acts as interpreter to this Consulate; and, being approved of by them, they signed at foot a written acceptance of the Commodore's proposition.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of this paper, which I apprehend, although not in the form of a Treaty, has nevertheless all the force of one.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Engagement between the King and Chiefs of Lagos and Commodore Mayo.

COMMODORE MAYO, Commander-in-chief of the United States' naval forces on the west coast of Africa, having arrived off this port, desires to salute the King of Lagos.

The United States have for a long time maintained a squadron on the coast of Africa, to protect the persons and property of American citizens engaged in lawful commerce, and to arrest and bring to justice all persons who may endeavour to prosecute the Slave Trade under the cover of the American flag. The Commodore has heard with much satisfaction that the King of Lagos has done all in his power to suppress the African Slave Trade, and that he affords every facility to vessels that come to his territory for the purpose of lawful traffic. He would be much gratified by receiving from the King and Chiefs of Lagos some formal and written assurance that citizens of the United States may always trade freely with the people of Lagos in all ports, places, and rivers within their territory, and some pledge that the King and Chiefs will show no favour and give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries, which they do not show to those of the United States, and that all citizens of the United States shall, under all circumstances, be placed upon the same footing with the citizens of the most favoured nation.

Commodore Mayo requests the King to receive the assurance of his high respect and consideration.

United States' flag-ship "Constitution," off Lagos,
July 31, 1854.

To His Majesty the King of Lagos.

Docemo, King of Lagos, with his chiefs and councillors, having carefully considered and discussed the propositions contained in the foregoing letter, do, on the part of themselves and of their country, hereby assent to all the aforesaid propositions, and solemnly promise and guarantee to all citizens of the United States every right and privilege which may at any time be granted to the most favoured nation with whom the King and Chiefs of Lagos have already formed, or may hereafter form a Treaty, or conclude an agreement.

(Signed) ^{his} KING  DOCEMO.
mark.

^{his} OLOMOBONG 
mark.

^{his} TALABEE 
mark.

^{his} OLOOCOHE 
mark.

^{his} ACHABONG 
mark.

^{his} OBERCHOR 
mark.

^{his} SERBER. 
mark.

Witnesses :

(Signed) JNO. RUDD,

Commander, United States' Navy.

C. R. P. RODGERS,

Flag-Lieutenant, African Squadron.

Flag-ship "Constitution," off Lagos,

July 31, 1854.

I, S. B. Williams, a native of Lagos, and collector of the revenue of the King of Lagos, having been educated at the English school at Sierra Leone, have faithfully interpreted to the King and Chiefs of Lagos the contents of the foregoing letter, and also the compact which they have signed, and I now certify that both the letter and compact are fully understood by them.

(Signed) S. B. WILLIAMS,
Collector and Interpreter to the British Consulate.
United States' Flag-ship "Constitution," off Lagos,
July 31, 1854.

(Signed) J. MAYO,
Commander-in-chief of the United States' Naval Forces,
West Coast of Africa.

Witness to signatures in the above, and to the signature of the interpreter to the British Consulate and collector of the King's revenue.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

No. 16.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, August 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 1st and 11th June last, relative to Badagry, forwarded per mail-packet "*Bacchante*," I have now the honour to report to your Lordship, that fully relying on the good faith of Mayoo that he would, as he expressed his readiness to do in his letter to me of the 10th June last, copy of which was forwarded to your Lordship with my despatch of the 11th June, I proceeded on the 28th of the same month to Badagry, arriving there on the morning of the 30th.

On my way, I directed the Chief Wawu, who was living with his people in some miserable huts on a swampy point of land, to follow me to Badagry, and he overtook me a few miles below the town; on approaching it, I was met by my own messenger (whom I had forwarded the day previously in a fast, light canoe, to prepare Mayoo for my arrival accompanied by Wawu), with a message from Mayoo, that if Wawu landed at Badagry he should be shot. I was astonished at this message, feeling certain that his letter to me of the 10th June, wherein he expresses his readiness, after having consulted his friends the Egba Chiefs, to receive back the expelled Badagry Chiefs, had been prepared for him at Abbeokuta, with the knowledge and approval not only of the Egba Chiefs, but of his missionary friends also. I recommended Wawu to wait on the opposite side of the Lagoon, until I had obtained an explanation of Mayoo's extraordinary conduct. I then landed, and sent word to Mayoo that I should be ready to receive him in an hour.

After a lapse of two hours he came to my quarters accompanied by his people. On my asking him why he refused to allow Wawu to land, and alluding to his letter to me of the 10th June, the contents and purport of which he seemed fully cognizant of, he replied that he would not permit Wawu to land without the Egbas were present. I told him his conduct was extraordinary, after having expressed his readiness to receive Wawu and the other Chiefs; and that his then hostile conduct would have a bad effect on the expelled Chiefs, who would lose all confidence in the sincerity of his declarations; that if he would allow Wawu alone to land, shake hands and converse with him for a time, I might then prevail on him to return to his place of exile, until I sent for the Egbas. He then got up abruptly from the sofa, said he had already spoken, and that if Wawu landed he would be shot. I then told him not to leave in that manner; that it was the first time we had met as friends, and that he must take a glass of wine with me. He sat down again, and on the wine being handed to him, he passed it to one of his attendants, rose from his seat, and left me.

I then communicated to Wawu that he would not be allowed to land, and that he had better return to his place of refuge, and wait until the Egba

messengers arrived. He thanked me for my advice, but declared his determination never to return, and that he preferred dying in sight of his home, and that of his fathers, rather than returning. It appears that Wawu, on first hearing of Mayoo's hostile conduct, had immediately dispatched a messenger to Possoo, who lived in a town a few miles above Badagry, apprising him of what had occurred, and of his intention not to return; upon which Possoo sent about thirty small war canoes to protect Wawu from Mayoo's attacks.

I at once wrote to the Abbeokuta Chiefs informing them of Mayoo's unexpected conduct, and requested them to send their messengers to have the matter of the Chiefs' return amicably settled, and that I would wait ten days for the arrival of their messengers. I also wrote to King Docemo to send his messengers, and in about four days they arrived; in ten days the persons who carried my letter to Abbeokuta returned, but without any answer, written or verbal; and, on sending to them for information, all that I received was, that the Egba messengers might come the next day, or the day after. I waited three days, and after giving Mayoo ample notice, I quitted Badagry, first cautioning Wawu, in the event of hostilities taking place, that the missionary establishments and those of the merchants must not be molested.

I was induced to send the letter to the Egba Chiefs, not that I anticipated any good results from it, but, because the time required for an answer could be advantageously employed in removing away the families of the missionary schoolmasters, the merchants' property, and afford time to those Sierra Leone emigrants who wished it, to remove. Most of these, however, being adherents of Mayoo, and either holders of slaves or dealers in slaves, made no preparation to leave, nor did the schoolmasters of the Church Missionary Society avail themselves of the canoe sent by Mr. Gollmer, to remove their wives and children, although it was evident to every one, that on my leaving Badagry, hostilities would ensue; they appeared to trust in the overwhelming support Mayoo would receive from the Egbas.

On my informing Mayoo of my intention to return to Lagos, he expressed no wish for me to remain; on the contrary, his conduct and that of his people evinced a disposition rather to drive me away, as, every night, under my bedroom window an incessant noise of drums, horns, &c., was kept up the whole night, so as to prevent all sleep. At first I remonstrated with him, and requested he would cause the nuisance to be stopped; but finding my representations to him only had the effect of increasing the annoyance, I discontinued complaining.

Shortly after my return from Badagry to Lagos, on the 12th of July, 1854, information was brought that Wawu and Possoo had landed at Badagry, attacked the town, burnt a portion of it, and driven Mayoo's forces to the outskirts; but, that from some mismanagement, their ammunition fell short, and they were compelled to retreat, when Mayoo's forces rallied, pursued them, and committed some slaughter upon them.

Wawu and Possoo, having then been reinforced by the King of Porto Novo's soldiers, as well as by a force from the Chiefs of Adu, Mayoo and his followers abandoned Badagry without attempting its defence, and retired to Agido. Here some fighting took place; but Mayoo being hemmed in by land, and by the Lagoon, sent a message to King Docemo for assistance to remove to Lagos; and at King Docemo's request, I dispatched the large consular boat to Agido, to aid in bringing away Mayoo and his family. I obtained the services of Mr. Tickel, junior, clerk to Mr. Sandeman, who proceeded in the boat to Agido, had an interview with Mayoo, and finding that it was really his wish to proceed to Lagos, he then went to the Issoes, who had the command of the Lagoon and blockaded Agido, and requested them in my name to retire, and so allow Mayoo and his people to reach Lagos unmolested. The Issoes assured Mr. Tickel they would comply with my wishes; and before Mr. Tickel left Agido, they had all proceeded homewards. Mayoo's followers then embarked in the several canoes that had been sent for them under the protection of the consular boat, and during last night the last of them arrived with Mayoo, and are now living under King Docemo's protection.

I latterly felt very anxious that the expelled Badagry Chiefs should regain their homes through my interference; for I greatly feared from Kosoko's movements, he having sent many of his women and children by land to the town of Adu, not far from Badagry, and being hard pressed by the King of Jaboo to remove from Epé, evidently intending to gain a footing at Badagry, by assisting

to reinstate Wawu and Possoo, and the other expelled Chiefs, had he been allowed time to carry out and effect his intentions, his influence there would have been most inimical to every peaceful and good purpose; whereas the British influence, obtained by the reinstatement of these much injured Chiefs, will be exercised for every good purpose; first, for carrying out the great national object of suppressing the Slave Trade, and increasing the valuable legitimate trade, the resources for which abound so largely in this part of the western coast, and with its aid allaying the bitter animosities engendered between tribe and tribe by that scourge the Slave Trade, and to counsel and assist the Chiefs in levying moderate dues on the exportation of palm oil, &c., and substituting this means of raising a revenue in lieu of the precarious one of slave-dealing, kidnapping, &c.; and I purpose, after the sailing of the packet, proceeding to Badagry and Porto Novo to carry out these objects.

No. 17.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Lagos, August 12, 1854.

I REGRET to have to report to your Lordship the continued shipment of cargoes of slaves from the neighbourhood of the ports of Whydah, Aghwey, and Great and Little Popoe. The Chiefs of these towns consider they are not violating their Treaty engagements if they do not allow the embarkation of slaves immediately opposite to their towns, but at a few miles' distance.

The shipments that have come to my knowledge since my last report to your Lordship are the following:

A brig, under American colours, name unknown, took away from 400 to 500 slaves close to Great Popoe.

A Portuguese schooner from Lisbon, name unknown, master's name José da Costa Leite, took away about 400 slaves from near Great Popoe.

A small fore-and-aft schooner, without any national colours, and name unknown, took away from 300 to 400 slaves; and latterly, a brig, formerly under French colours, and called the "*Cæsar*," and a trader attached to the French factory at Whydah, carried off about 250 slaves. This vessel, a few months since, brought a cargo of rum and tobacco from the Brazils to Whydah for the French factory; she was then stated to be leaky and unseaworthy, and on Her Majesty's sloop "*Arab*" visiting the roadstead of Whydah, the French master requested Commander Ogle that he would appoint competent persons to survey the "*Cæsar*." This was done, and I believe a certificate was given of the brig's unseaworthiness. It appears that she remained at anchor in the roadstead until the arrival of the French brig of war "*Entreprenant*," when an application was made to Captain Du Creste Villeneuve for a survey on the vessel, which was held, and she was again declared unseaworthy; and I suppose an authorisation for the sale of the vessel was then obtained from Captain Villeneuve, for the "*Cæsar*" appears to have passed into the hands of the slave-dealers at Whydah, who, as might be expected, shipped slaves on board of her and sent her to Cuba.

The principal shippers of slaves by these vessels are, Domingo Martins, of Porto Novo, and the slave-dealers at Aghwey and Whydah, who send as supercargo, and to look after the sale of their cargoes in Cuba, a Spaniard named Domingo Mustich, himself also a considerable shipper.

I have also received information that an armed schooner, under Spanish colours, which made her appearance about three months since, and caused some uneasiness among the English shipping, was wrecked about two months since on Bonny Bar. The captain, mate, and supercargo of this vessel took passage to England on board the "*Forerunner*" mail-packet on her last voyage. My informant conversed with these people on board the packet when off Lagos, by whom he was told of the loss of the vessel, and that they had saved the specie that was on board; the name of the schooner he did not learn.

I deem it my duty to acquaint your Lordship with the fact that the vessels from the ports of Liverpool and Bristol, coming to the coast for cargoes of palm oil, particularly those consigned to Domingo Martins, have this year brought

with them an unusual number of puncheons (intended to be filled with palm oil) filled with fresh water as ballast, in consequence of Domingo Martins having by circulars and other means given notice to the mercantile houses engaged in the palm-oil trade from Bristol and Liverpool, that he would furnish them with cargoes for specie; they have therefore brought specie instead of merchandize, which would have ballasted their vessels. It is always necessary for vessels trading to the Bight of Benin to bring sufficient water to last their crews for the whole voyage, the difficulty of obtaining water from the coast being great; but all vessels carrying off slaves from the Bight of Benin (except those coming out fully equipped under the protection of the American flag), must experience the like difficulty. Now, as the same parties who supply palm oil to these Bristol and Liverpool vessels, at Porto Novo, Whydah, &c., are also shippers of slaves, and give no guarantee after receiving the specie or merchandize from the English supercargoes, for the due fulfilment of their engagements, it is to be feared that some of the large quantities of fresh water put on board the English vessels as ballast, becomes, at times, indirectly at the command of the slave-dealers.

I shall not fail to apprise Commodore Adams of this means of supplying the cruizers in the Bight of Benin with fresh water, instead of sending them off the station to Prince's Island or Fernando Po for a supply; as, beyond the quantity of fresh water required for the merchant-vessels' use, the surplus fresh water should be at the disposal of the Commanders of Her Majesty's vessels, and salt water will answer all the purpose for ballast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 18.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Lagós, August 14, 1854.

ABOUT three years since the Admiralty authorized the reception on board of some of Her Majesty's ships stationed on this coast, of a limited number of youths from the schools at Sierra Leone, to learn navigation and seamanship.

Two young men, named James Davies and Samuel Davies, were selected from that excellent establishment, the Church Missionary Grammar-School, so ably conducted by the late Rev. Mr. Peyton, and received on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Volcano," under the command of Captain Coote.

During the very limited time the young men were attached to that vessel (about eighteen months, part of which time was profitably spent by them at Ascension, where, in the sail-loft at that depôt, they were taught to cut out and make sails), they learnt the practical part of navigation, and are now employed navigating vessels belonging to their countrymen at Sierra Leone, to and from this place, and between Sierra Leone and the Gambia. On my expressing to them pleasure at the proficiency they had acquired in so short a time, they informed me that Captain Coote had paid great personal attention to their progress.

This attempt to render native Africans useful in the pursuit of commerce in their own country having proved so successful, I am induced respectfully to submit the proposition to your Lordship, that some intelligent young men from the above school, and from the Wesleyan schools, may be received on board Her Majesty's steam-ships stationed on the coast, to learn the management of marine steam-engines, with the hope that they will arrive at equal proficiency as those who were taught navigation on board the "Volcano."

I hope I am not too sanguine in looking forward to the day when the great increase of legitimate commerce, on the total suppression of the Slave Trade, will require the aid of steam; that the efforts made to explore the Niger and the Tshadda will eventually be crowned with success; and that mercantile steam-boats will then be employed, not only on those rivers, but on the extensive Lagoons, particularly those stretching from Lagos as far on the east as the river Benin, and to the westward to within twenty miles of Whydah; when the services of native engineers will become most valuable.

A few years since I paid a visit to the French establishment on the River Senegal, and I observed that the steam-boats on that extensive river were provided with engineers natives of the country, who had been instructed in France.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 19.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st August, reporting that the Commodore in command of the United States' squadron on the west coast of Africa had visited Lagos, and had concluded an Agreement on behalf of the United States' Government with the King and Chiefs of that place; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having given Commodore Mayo all the information and assistance in your power upon this occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 20.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

(Extract,)

Foreign Office, November 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of August, reporting your further proceedings for the purpose of reinstating at Badagry the Chiefs who were expelled from thence in 1851, and transmitting further information showing the participation of Mayoo in the slave dealings of Domingo Martinez.

I have to state to you in reply that I am still of opinion that you acted injudiciously in availing yourself as you did of the desire of the former rulers of Badagry to re-establish themselves in that town, in order to punish the *de facto* Sovereign Mayoo for his violation of the Treaty with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and that you ought to have acted in concert with the naval Commander-in-chief in regard to this matter.

When you received from Mr. Gollmer the two letters addressed to him from Badagry on the 13th of October and on the 8th of November, 1853, by Mr. Wright and Mr. Coker, you should have transmitted copies of those letters to this Department, and Her Majesty's Government might then have exercised their discretion as to the expediency of instructing the Commodore on the African Station to concert with you the means of obtaining positive evidence of Mayoo's proceedings, and on proof being obtained of his participation in the Slave Trade, measures might have been taken openly in order to prevent the repetition of such practices.

No. 21.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 14.)

(Extract.)

Badagry, November 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 21st September,* wherein your Lordship remarks that you have some difficulty in reconciling the friendly tone adopted by me towards Alajogun, the King of Porto Novo, with the harsh measures which I am disposed to take against Mayoo, inasmuch as the former appears to harbour slave-dealers,

such as Domingo Martinez, who carries on his Traffic in Slaves and palm oil under the protection of Alajogun, while no accusation of the kind is made against Mayoo.

When I read that accusation against Alajogun in the Rev. Mr. Townsend's letter, though satisfied at the time of its injustice, I did not like to take upon me boldly to contradict it until I had made inquiry on the subject, and taxed Alajogun with it, which I have since had an opportunity of doing. The traders, both European and native, declare Mr. Townsend's accusation not founded on fact; and Alajogun and his Chiefs indignantly deny it, and charge both Mr. Townsend and Mr. Gollmer with exciting the Egbas to overrun the whole seaboard from Porto Novo to Lagos, and by destroying their towns and villages, killing and capturing the Popoes, to make themselves masters of that part of it. The ravages the Egbas have committed within the last fifteen or twenty years upon many of the Popoe towns skirting the King of Porto Novo's territories certainly give Alajogun and his Chiefs ground for fearing such to be their intention and desire.

With regard to Domingo Martinez, the joint slave and palm-oil dealer, I must inform your Lordship that his establishment on the beach, which he calls Porto Novo, is about eight miles from the large town called by the same name where King Alajogun resides, and which lies inland, and that the King of Dahomey claims the sovereignty of that sea-shore, and to him Domingo Martinez pays a heavy tribute for his protection, and dues on all the palm oil shipped on from his place.

The King of Porto Novo has no desire to contest that sovereignty with his powerful neighbour and brother, as he calls Gezo, the King of Dahomey; Badagry having been from time immemorial the shipping port of Porto Novo, and heretofore yielding a handsome revenue to its Sovereigns. Therefore, if only for the pecuniary consideration, it is Alajogun's interest, by opening the trade to Badagry from Porto Novo, and causing its large commerce in palm oil to flow there, to induce Domingo Martinez, when deprived of the palm oil, to move nearer to Whydah. So far from this troublesome slave-dealer being favoured by Alajogun, the fact that Alajogun wishes to get rid of his neighbourhood, and that since Domingo established himself on the beach, now eight years since, he has not once visited Alajogun, bespeak the little friendship existing between them.

I hope, my Lord, to be excused feeling a little partiality for an African Monarch who on the first solicitation signed the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, &c., and, I believe, has faithfully observed it, and intends doing so; whose government, though a pure despotism, is mildly administered through the medium of his aged Chiefs; in whose town and territories order, peace, and security reign; who really loves and desires peace; and who, as well as his ancestors did, holds human life in that respect, that the very spilling of blood on the ground, even that of a slave, is punished by death, or expatriation by sale; who in his intercourse with strangers is candid, open, and courteous; and who promptly complied with a request I made to him soon after my arrival at Lagos to obtain the liberation of a Sierra Leone born boy, who had been kidnapped and sold in the neighbourhood of Whydah, by instituting a rigorous search for him, and paying a double ransom for him, sent him to me at Lagos without any request for repayment of his outlay.

No. 22.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 14th of August, I have to inform you that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have, in compliance with your suggestion contained therein, directed that a limited number of young Africans from the Missionary Schools at Sierra Leone may be received on board Her Majesty's steamers of the African squadron for the purpose of being taught the management of marine steam-engines.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a letter addressed to the Queen on the 2nd of June last by the King of Dahomey, which he sent to Cape Coast Castle by the Rev. Thomas Freeman, a Wesleyan missionary. I inclose also a copy of the answer which I have returned to that letter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 23.
The King of Dahomey to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

To Her Britannic Majesty Queen Victoria,

Abomey, June 2, 1854.

HIS Majesty the King of Dahomey has much pleasure in addressing the following communication to Her Majesty.

Many years ago a very strong friendship existed betwixt the King of Dahomey and the Sovereign of England, and of the three Powers having forts at Whydah,—English, French, and Portuguese, the King of Dahomey made choice of England and its Sovereign as his close friend.

At that time the Sovereign of England requested the King of Dahomey to send to the British Court one of his own people as his representative, and the King of Dahomey consequently sent Hassu-Ammamuso, his eldest son, to represent him at the English Court; and the Sovereign of England also sent a Representative to Dahomey.

Hassu-Ammamuso was absent from Dahomey nineteen months; on his return he was accompanied by the British Representative. The union of feeling between the two countries and Courts was so close and strong, that had there been no sea the King of Dahomey would have travelled to England, to have a dwelling-house close to that of his friend the English Sovereign, who was his sole European friend, living with him in close amity and affection; and the present feelings of the King of Dahomey are the same as those which have been expressed as existing betwixt the two Powers in former days, and he is anxious that Her Majesty the Queen of England should heartily reciprocate that same feeling.

As a proof of the very close friendship then existing betwixt England and Dahomey, all matters of trade affecting the interest of Dahomey were subjected to the consideration of the English Sovereign, and by his views and wishes the King of Dahomey was guided in all such questions.

The son of the first Governor was sent to England at the express wish of the King of Dahomey, with a hope that he would return as a native of this country, and be useful to both Sovereigns; but, unfortunately, he became unsteady, and disappointed all expectations respecting him.

The King is aware that the main cause of the non-existence for some time past of that close friendship which he desires to have with England has been the continuation of the Slave Trade in his dominions for a considerable time after the Queen of England commenced making great efforts for its suppression, and he is willing and desirous to meet the wishes of the Queen of England in its entire suppression throughout his country as early as it can be accomplished consistently with the circumstance that Dahomey has been for many years past almost entirely dependent upon the Slave Trade for its support and prosperity, and the King is, therefore, anxiously waiting for an answer to his communication to the Queen of England on that subject by her officer, Captain Forbes, now five years back; a delay which the King very much regrets, as he is particularly anxious that the former good intelligence existing betwixt England and Dahomey should be immediately restored, and therefore hopes that Her Majesty the Queen of England will not delay to meet this, his most sincere and earnest wish.

Fifteen years ago a British cruizer came into Whydah Roads, fired into the town, and killed eight natives without the King of Dahomey being aware that any provocation had been given by any of his people to the Queen, or to the officer of that ship; and being anxious that Her Majesty would kindly oblige him by directing some inquiry into the case. And he also begs that the Queen will send him for his constant use in Dahomey, the English flag—the ensign and the union jack. To open up a closer communication betwixt England and Dahomey, the King begs that Her Majesty will, if it be practicable, give instructions for the monthly mail steam-packets to call at Whydah.

The King of Dahomey also begs to inform Her Majesty that he appoints Mr. Freeman to mention several matters which are in his mind verbally to his Excellency Governor Hill, that he, the Governor, may on his arrival in England, mention them to her.

Wishing Her Majesty health and happiness, and hoping soon to receive a kind communication from her, he subscribes himself, with feelings of the warmest amity and friendship.

(Signed) GUZZU ^{his} , King of Dahomey.
mark.

Witnessed :
(Signed) THOMAS BIRCH FREEMAN,
HENRY WHARTON,
Wesleyan Missionaries.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to the King of Dahomey.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 18, 1854.

I HAVE received the Queen's commands to acknowledge the receipt of the letter dated the 2nd of June last, which you sent to Her Majesty by the Rev. Thomas Freeman through the Governor of the Gold Coast, and in which you express your desire for the renewal of the relations formerly existing between the kingdoms of Great Britain and of Dahomey.

Although it is an unpleasant task for me to refer to the causes which have led Her Majesty's Government to abandon the hope of establishing a good understanding with your Majesty, yet as it appears by your letter that you are anxious to receive a communication from Her Majesty's Government, I feel bound to express myself frankly upon this subject, and to remind you of the failure of the repeated efforts made by Her Majesty's Government during the last ten years for the purpose of prevailing upon your Majesty to prevent your subjects from selling their countrymen to European foreigners, who convey them to distant lands where they languish in toil and misery instead of being employed at home in augmenting the wealth and resources of their own country.

I regret very much to be obliged to add that during the last twelve months the Dahomian port of Whydah has been disgraced by a great increase of this criminal practice, and that it is manifest that your subjects have wilfully disregarded the solemn engagement which you concluded with Captain Forbes on the 13th of January, 1852, whereby you pledged yourself to the Queen of England that the export of slaves to foreign countries should be abolished for ever in your dominions.

The Queen of England desires to maintain friendly relations with your Majesty, and is convinced that they will greatly contribute to the advantage of Dahomey; but as Her Majesty scrupulously maintains every engagement she enters into, she expects the same good faith from other Powers, and Her Majesty hopes that by the fulfilment of your promises she will be enabled to place her relations with you upon the footing on which she desires to see them established.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 24.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE just returned from Epé, the residence of Kosoko and his Chiefs, to which place I found it necessary to proceed in company with Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," the Senior Officer of the Bights Division, and Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," Lieutenant Commander Ryves, in order to put an end to the state of anxiety and uneasiness felt by the King, Chiefs, and people of Lagos, in consequence of the late frequent reports that Kosoko and his party intended by a great demonstration of their force, and by cutting off the sources of trade and supply of provisions, to compel the King, Chiefs, and people of Lagos to allow them to return to their homes.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the engagement voluntarily entered into by Kosoko and his numerous Chiefs with myself and Commander Miller. I feel great confidence in this engagement being faithfully observed, and that it will eventually lead, if no mischievous influence is set at work, to a state of peace between the people of Lagos and those of Epé, and to a great increase of the valuable legitimate trade of Lagos and the other ports.

I hope my proceedings in this instance will meet with your Lordship's favourable consideration and approbation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 24.

Agreement.

Agreement entered into this 28th day of September, 1854, between Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, and Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, and Thomas Miller, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," Senior Officer in the Bights of Benin and Biafra.

1. KOSOKO, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, solemnly pledge themselves to make no attempt to regain possession of Lagos, either by threats, hostilities, or stratagem.

2. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, claim Palma as their port of trade, and Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and Thomas Miller, Esquire, Commander and Senior Naval Officer in the Bights, engage to recognise Palma as the port of Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, for all purposes of legitimate trade.

3. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, do most solemnly pledge themselves to abandon the Slave Trade, that is, the export of slaves from Africa; also not to allow any slave-trader to reside at their port, or at any other place within their jurisdiction and influence.

4. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, solemnly bind themselves to give every protection and assistance to such merchants and traders as may wish to reside among them for the purpose of carrying on legitimate trade; also to assist Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to re-open the markets on the Jaboo shore, viz., Agience, Ecorodo, and Abayee, and in maintaining order and security at those markets.

5. There shall be levied at the port of Palma an export duty of one head of cowries for every puncheon of palm oil, of the average size of one hundred and twenty gallons, and two strings of cowries per lb. on all ivory exported from the above port, for the benefit of Kosoko.

6. Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, engages on

behalf of Her Majesty's Government, that for the due and faithful performance of this Engagement on the part of Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, there shall be paid to Kosoko by Her Majesty's Government an annual allowance for his life of two thousand heads of cowries, or one thousand dollars, at his option.

7. This Engagement to have full force and effect from this day, and until annulled by Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

Signed up the Lagoon at Epé, this 28th day of September, 1854.

(Signed)	KOSOKO	his X mark.	WHYDOBAH	his X mark.
Cabooceers and Chiefs :				
	OLOOSEMA	his X mark.	BAGALOO	his X mark.
	OLOTO	his X mark.	APSEE	his X mark.
	PELLEW	his X mark.	OLEESAU	his X mark.
	TAPA	his X mark.	ETTEE	his X mark.
	AGENIA	his X mark.	LOMOSA	his X mark.
	BOSOPO	his X mark.	OTCHEODEE	his X mark.
	AGAGOO	his X mark.		
	OBATCHI	his X mark.		

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Benin.
 THOS. MILLER,
*Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," and Senior
 Officer of the Bights of Benin and Biafra.*

In the presence of:

(Signed) HERBERT L. RYVES, *Lieut.-Commander of "Minx."*
 W. P. BRAUND, *Master, Her Majesty's sloop "Crane."*
 FRANCIS WM. DAVIS, *Assistant-Surgeon, "Minx."*
 GEO. BATT. SCALA, *Merchant of Lagos.*
 W. R. HANSEN, *Merchant of Lagos.*
 JOSE PEDRO DA COUSTA ROY, *Merchant of Lagos.*
 S. B. WILLIAMS, *Merchant of Lagos, and Interpreter.*

No. 25.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, November 24, 1854.

INFORMATION having reached me of the total loss of the "Fore-runner," with the mails on board, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a duplicate of my despatch dated October 1,* forwarded by that vessel, inclosing the original of an Engagement I had, in conjunction with Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," the senior officer of the Bights Division, entered into with Kosoko and the whole of his Cabooceers, of which I now forward your Lordship a copy.

On my first visit to Epé with Lieutenant-Commander Bedingsfeld, and at the interview I had brought about between the Cabooceers of Epé and those of Lagos, at a small island on the Lagoon, as detailed in my despatch of

the 29th of January,* the Cabooceers of Epé pressed very hard that a limited number of their canoes might be allowed to trade with the merchants at Lagos, and I promised them that this reasonable request should have all my support; but, on mentioning this wish of the Epé Cabooceers to King Docemo and his Chiefs, they unanimously refused the permission, urging the most absurd reasons, based on their gross superstition. I nevertheless frequently urged the request of the Cabooceers on the King and Chiefs; and I pointed out to them, in case of their obstinately refusing a request so reasonable, that the result would be, that Kosoko, his Cabooceers and people, would have a shipping port of their own on the coast, where they would be able to trade direct with the merchants and supercargoes; that, from their position at Epé, and their great command of canoes, they would be able to engross the large trade of the Province of Jaboo, and by shipping their palm oil from the port on the coast, instead of from Lagos, King Docemo would suffer a considerable diminution of his revenue. All my arguments and remonstrances were in vain. Docemo and his Chiefs insisted that the Epé people should have no intercourse with Lagos. It was evident that I was opposed in this matter by some powerful influence.

Notwithstanding this very inimical conduct on the part of King Docemo and his Chiefs, Kosoko and his Cabooceers rigidly adhered to their verbal promise to me, not to disturb the canoes trading on the Lagoon; and some months passed away without any molestation of the free navigation of the surrounding waters being heard of. During this time Kosoko and his Cabooceers occasionally sent a small canoe to the Consulate, to ascertain whether the permission to trade with Lagos had been accorded. Although on these visits the people of Epé invariably came unarmed, their presence at Lagos gave great offence to the King and his party; and, on one occasion, during an hour's absence from the Consulate, I learnt on my return, that upwards of 100 armed men from the the King's quarter, followers of his Captain Achambong, had been to the Consulate, singing insulting songs, and using threats to the few Epé people who were quartered under the verandah of the house; in their songs and threats I was informed I was not spared.

Upon this manifestation of ill-feeling, I dispatched the Epé messengers back to their homes, accompanying them myself in my boat about five miles beyond Lagos; and I wrote to Kosoko and his Cabooceers, under the then state of things, not to send their messengers again to Lagos.

At length rumours became rife, that Kosoko and his Cabooceers feeling their isolation, being shut out from all commercial intercourse with Lagos, and their situation having become irksome and insupportable, were arming largely to make a desperate move somewhere. It was stated, and it has since turned out to be correct, that one of their projects was to proceed on to Adu, and from that town to assist the expelled Badagry Chiefs to regain possession of their town, which, if accomplished, would have given Kosoko, his Cabooceers and people, a right to domicile at Badagry. It was further stated, that for some time past Kosoko had been forwarding his wives, children, and valuables to Adu. In consequence of the great uneasiness caused by the rumours of these movements, I was urgently requested by the merchants and traders to apply to Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," the senior officer of the Bights Division, to allow Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx" to enter the river; and, on my showing Commander Miller the importance and urgency of such a step, the "Minx" crossed the bar, and anchored off the Consulate.

It was then arranged between Commander Miller and myself, that we should proceed in the "Minx" to the small island on the Lagoon, and invite Kosoko's Cabooceers to a conference. On our arrival at the island we dispatched a messenger to Tappa and the Cabooceers, inviting them to meet us. In answer to our invitation, we received an urgent application from Tappa to proceed on to Epé, for the purpose, as he stated, of having a personal conference with Kosoko, who would be sure to pay more attention to our representations, conveyed personally, than through any of his Cabooceers.

We accordingly proceeded on, and anchored off the town, when Kosoko sent his messenger to pay his compliments, &c.; and we in return sent messengers to pay our respects to him and his Cabooceers, and to inform them that we should, after breakfast, land and inform them of the object of our visit.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 57.

We were received, on landing, by Tappa and all the leading Cabooceers, and a crowd of people, who manifested a most friendly disposition. After remaining a short time at Tappa's house, Kosoko sent word that he was prepared to receive us. I then, with Commander Miller, and some of the officers of the "*Minx*," and accompanied by Tappa, went to Kosoko's residence, where we met him, with his Cabooceers. Our reception was a very friendly one; and I soon entered into the object of our visit, which I informed him was to put a stop to the uneasiness created by the rumours of his intended attack on Lagos. To effect this, I had to propose to him to enter into a solemn engagement, not to seek to regain possession of that place, either forcibly or covertly, and that, in return for such an Engagement, the port at which he should wish to carry on his trade should be recognised, and that he should receive from Her Majesty's Government a moderate annual allowance for the total abandonment of the Slave Trade by himself and his Cabooceers, &c., and that I would be prepared on the following morning to submit the Engagement for his consideration and signature and that of his Cabooceers. He promised that my proposal should that evening be submitted to all his Chiefs, principal and subordinate; he then invited us to remain and partake of his hospitality, which we did; and a very well-cooked repast was laid on the table, good wines alone being wanting, Kosoko himself doing the part of host very creditably. This over, we returned on board, leaving my interpreter and other persons on shore to discuss the terms of the engagement with Tappa and the other influential Cabooceers, and to point out the advantages to be derived by them through it.

On the morrow, we again landed with the proposed engagement fairly written. It was submitted to Kosoko and a very full number of his Chiefs, every Article being first interpreted into the Portuguese language, which many of them speak fluently, and afterwards into the country language. After a patient and well-conducted discussion on the different Articles of the Engagement, in which considerable acuteness and intelligence was displayed, Kosoko rose up to put his mark to the paper, expressing his hope that he would be allowed to die at Lagos, and not in exile. After placing his mark, he called on all the Cabooceers to subscribe to the Engagement, which they all did.

The question of a limited number of their canoes being allowed to trade with Lagos was again raised, and I promised that now all fears of an attempt of a forcible recovery of Lagos being removed, I would, on my return thither, insist on King Docemo and his Chiefs consenting to their canoes trading freely with the merchants at Lagos.

On the nature of the engagement concluded with Kosoko becoming well understood by Docemo and his Chiefs, they have, at last, not only freely consented to the *Epé* canoes visiting Lagos, but they have, at my suggestion, fenced in a large space of ground for a market for the *Epé* people; the people of Lagos expecting, in return, that they will have free liberty to trade with the markets at and about *Epé*. This will follow as a matter of course, and I hope shortly to have the satisfaction of seeing people who, a few months since, could not meet without a strong desire to destroy each other, meeting in friendly commercial intercourse.

This market-place will also serve alternately for the Porto Novo and Badagry traders.

And now, having succeeded in opening a free intercourse along the Lagoon from *Epé* to Porto Novo, a distance of 120 miles, I hope very shortly to see removed, through the influence of legitimate commerce, all those animosities and enmities which have so long existed between the peoples of Lagos, *Epé*, Badagry, and Porto Novo.

No. 26.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 1, 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction to report to your Lordship that no information of any shipment of slaves from the Bight of Benin has reached me since that made on board the late French brig "*Cæsar*," reported in my despatch of the 12th August of this year.

The shipment of slaves by this vessel has been the cause of much vexation to Captain Du Creste Villeneuve, commanding the French naval division in the Bights, as your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed postscript to a letter I received from Captain Villeneuve.

It appears to have been, on the part of the Whydah slave-dealers, a most reckless adventure, as the officers of Her Majesty's sloop "*Arab*," who had been called upon to survey the "*Cæsar*," declared her to be in most unseaworthy and dangerous state.

The number of slaves shipped on board the "*Cæsar*" has been variously stated. It appears, by accounts most worthy of credit, that she carried away about 420 slaves.

I am informed that the slave-dealers at and about Whydah have taken the alarm at the news of the seizure of two of their cargoes of slaves by the authorities in Cuba, and at the probable loss of that by the "*Cæsar*;" they are now resuming the palm-oil trade, and those who can are removing to Ahgwey and other ports, to get clear of the exorbitant exactions of the King of Dahomey and those of his Chiefs ruling at Whydah, which nothing but a successful Slave Trade can support.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Captain Villeneuve to Consul Campbell.

Mon cher Consul,

Samedi soir.

JE reçois à l'instant une lettre du Commandant du "*Crane*," qui m'apprend le départ du brick le "*César*" avec des esclaves.

C'est une affaire que je déplore, et que je n'ai pu empêcher. En deux mots, voici ce qui s'est passé. Le "*César*" a été jugé innavigable, d'abord par une commission du brick "*l'Arabe*," et plus tard par une contre-visite d'une commission de mon bord. Le navire, qui était assuré, devenait à ce moment la propriété des assureurs; et en l'absence de ceux-ci le capitaine du brick devenait chargé de leurs intérêts. Je voulais conduire le "*César*" au Gabon pour le vendre, et le faire servir dans le fleuve. Mais il fallait le faire naviguer sous la responsabilité de quelqu'un; et personne n'a voulu accepter cette charge. On ne pouvait le laisser pourrir devant Whydah, car les assureurs auraient fait poursuivre; et puisqu'on trouvait à le vendre, le capitaine du "*César*" a cru de son devoir, pour l'intérêt des assureurs, de vendre le navire. La vente s'est fait pendant mon absence de la côte, sans cela j'aurais pu agir pour qu'il ne fût pas vendu aux Portugais de Whydah. Le commandant du "*Crane*" m'écrit qu'il est parti avec 700 esclaves; je connais le brick, et s'il en a pris 300, il en aura mis dans ses hunes. Ce n'est que hier à la nuit, quand j'appareillais de Whydah, que j'ai appris imparfaitement la chose, par l'officier que j'avais envoyé à bord du "*Dolphin*." Si je n'avais par été aussi pressé, j'aurais éclairci cette affaire, qui d'ailleurs n'est pas perdue pour attendre.

Tout à vous,

(Signé)

DE VILLENEUVE.

No. 27.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 1, 1854.

WITH reference to the large capture of Egbas made by Kosoko's war-people, in sight of the King's house at Lagos, as reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 20th December of last year,* and to the steps I had taken in obedience to your Lordship's instructions to obtain the restoration of the Egbas remaining in the hands of Kosoko's people; I have now the honour to report, that on my late visit to Epé, I learnt from one of the war-captains, named Abadge, himself an Egba man, and a leading Captain of the expedition which effected the capture of the Egbas, that nearly the whole of them had been redeemed by their relatives; that the few remaining unredeemed were kept in the households of the Cabooceers, waiting the arrival of their friends to redeem them. On my telling Abadge that I had been informed that some of the Egbas had been sold in the Benin, he assured me such was not the case, for that slaves brought a very low price in Benin, and that, by keeping the captured Egbas, their friends redeemed them at a price considerably above the mere value of a slave. He further informed me that the capture of these people was a "matter of money," undertaken by the Captains of the Cabooceers, who, from being deprived of all trade, were become in want of the means of living.

I ought here to mention a circumstance to your Lordship of which I was credibly informed. On the arrival of the Egba prisoners, Senhor Lima, thinking he recognised some among them who had been present at the attack on the slave factories at Jaboo, some months previous, was very anxious to purchase them; the eagerness he evinced raised a suspicion in the mind of Agineah's captain, who had captured them, that it was Lima's intention to torture and kill them; he therefore refused to sell them to Lima at any price. Lima sought the interference of Kosoko, but he, being made acquainted with the reason of the Captain's refusal to sell them to Lima, supported the Captain in his refusal.

This Senhor Lima, who possessed so much evil influence over the mind of Kosoko, and who had acted as his Chef d'Artillerie, died at Epé, of dysentery, about six months since. Kosoko buried him with a great display of native military honours; the cannon in the town were fired during the whole day, and other ceremonies gone through, suitable, as he supposed, to a white man of rank and importance.

To his death, and the removal of his evil influence, I attribute, in a great measure, Kosoko's present pacific disposition, and the little reluctance he evinced to sign an engagement whereby he has bound himself to abandon all Slave Trade for the future.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 28.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 2, 1854.

WHEN Kosoko and his Cabooceers had signed the Engagement, they expressed a wish to be furnished with an English flag to hoist at Palma, their port of trade; and that one of Her Majesty's vessels should proceed there, and by firing a salute proclaim the opening of the port.

Commander Miller, in his report to Commodore Adams of his proceedings, mentioned this wish to the Commodore.

Commander Miller's proceedings at Epé, in conjunction with me, having met the entire approval of Commodore Adams, I was invited by the Commodore, on the occasion of my paying my official visit to him on board the "Scourge,"

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 55.

to accompany him to Palma, in order to carry out the wishes of Kosoko and his Cabooceers. I accordingly embarked on board Her Majesty's ship "Scourge," and on the 27th ultimo proceeded with Commodore Adams to Palma; Commander Miller in Her Majesty's ship "Crane" preceding us some hours.

On the afternoon of the 28th ultimo Kosoko and the whole of his Cabooceers arrived at Palma from Epé. The following morning boats were sent outside the surf to bring the Cabooceers on board the "Scourge," the Commodore having invited them. Unfortunately the surf was that day very bad, and only Tappa and a few of the Captains would venture through it.

On their arrival on board the "Scourge," they met with a most kind reception from Commodore Adams, and were received with all due honours. The huge 10-inch gun and the large shot belonging to it struck them with astonishment. The Commodore ordered the gun to be fired at full charge and a high elevation, and the distance to which they threw so large a ball greatly surprised the party: some shells were also fired off. The marines were put through their exercise, and the seamen through the cutlass exercise. This last was looked upon with great interest, it being quite novel to the visitors. The Commodore then went round the ship with the intelligent Tappa, explaining through an interpreter the various departments. The engine-room, its cleanliness, extent, and the (to them) wonderful mechanism of the engine, created a profound astonishment; and I feel certain that Tappa then felt more than ever the inutility of attempting to resist British power.

On the departure of Tappa and his party the salute was fired. It was returned by volleys of musketry from the shore, where the English ensign which had been forwarded to Kosoko was flying.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 29.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 5, 1854.

ON my late visit to Porto Novo, and in conversation with the King relative to Slave Trade matters, he suggested that the Chiefs of Adu and Okeadon, two important towns on the road from the interior, the former leading to Badagry, the latter to Whydah and Porto Novo, should be invited to conclude Treaties the same as the seaboard Chiefs; stating that by opposing the passage of slaves destined for the coast through their towns, they would effect much good.

The King of Agido, a rather large town some ten miles east of Badagry, expressed his willingness to conclude an Anti-Slave Trade Treaty: he assumed the sovereignty of this town about nine months since. It was during an interregnum that Mayoo built the large barracoon for Domingo Martins, the walls of which are still standing.

Should your Lordship approve of Treaties being concluded with these Chiefs, it will be requisite, I believe, for me to be empowered by your Lordship to do so; in that case I have to pray your Lordship to direct that some blank Treaties on parchment be forwarded to this Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 30.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 5, 1854.

SENHOR MARCO BORGES FERRAS, formerly extensively engaged in Slave Trade at this place, and who with other slave-dealers was expelled from Lagos on the present King Docemo coming into power, has lately landed here on the plea of recovering a large quantity of palm oil due to him by various traders in this place.

He had previously addressed me several times from Accra, praying me to grant him leave to return to Lagos to recover payment of debts due to him.

I replied to him, that he had been expelled from Lagos by the King, who was bound by his Treaty with Her Majesty's Government to expel all slave-traders from his territories, and that the permission to return to Lagos did not rest with me.

Senhor Marco (as he is most commonly called) landed here from Accra per last mail-steamer "*Bacchante*." Knowing that he really has a considerable quantity of palm oil due to him, I have requested the King to allow Senhor Marco to remain three months at Lagos to obtain payment of the debts due to him.

Another of the slave-traders, a Senhor Jambo, has also been here in the character of supercargo for a month past. He landed a quantity of Brazil tobacco from a brig whose name I have not been able to learn, and sent the brig back to Whydah, I believe for a further supply, while he remained on shore. The brig returned this morning to Lagos Roads.

I shall not fail, my Lord, to keep a watchful eye on the movements of these people.

No. 31.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received February 5, 1855.*)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 6, 1854.

I DO myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 21st September,* disapproving of the measures I had taken for the removal of Mayoo, the late Chief of Badagry.

Shortly after assuming my duties at this place I received a letter from Mayoo, informing me that the King of Porto Novo was preparing to reinstate the original Chiefs of Badagry, and praying my interference. I wrote to the King of Porto Novo, requesting him not to take any hostile steps against Mayoo, and that I would, on the return of the dry season, proceed to Badagry and Porto Novo, and endeavour to arrange their differences amicably,

In the mean time reports reached me of the open and constant violation by Mayoo of his Slave Treaty engagements, and I sought, through the correspondence on Slave Trade, and from other sources, to make myself acquainted with the recent history of Badagry, and of the causes which brought about the rebellion by Mayoo, the late King Akitoye's people, and the Sierra Leone emigrants, all mere sojourners at Badagry, which ended in the expulsion of the legitimate Chiefs and the substitution of Mayoo.

No event that has occurred in this distracted and unsettled country, not even Kosoko's forcible expulsion from Lagos, has created the discontent and dissatisfaction which the expulsion of the Badagry Chiefs did; the agency by which it was brought about, and the base ingratitude of the principal actors in the affair, excited indignation throughout the country, except with the parties benefitting by it—the Egbas, Mayoo's followers, and the Sierra Leone emigrants, who all supplied Domingo Martins with slaves. It was also regarded by the whole of the Popoes, of whom the King of Dahomey is the head, by the Jaboos, and by Kosoko's strong party, as the first step towards making the Egbas the masters of the whole seaboard from Porto Novo to Lagos.

In my conversation with the King of Porto, and with all other Chiefs, I have not failed to assure them that Her Majesty's Government have no intention of assisting the Egbas to make themselves masters of countries not belonging to them, that all the tribes enjoy its sympathy and goodwill, and that those Chiefs who rigidly carry out their Treaty obligations to suppress the Slave Trade, and promote legitimate commerce, will enjoy its friendship.

Deeply as I regret to have incurred your Lordship's censure by my interference in the restoration of the rightful Badagry Chiefs, it is some satisfaction to me to be able to report to your Lordship that their restoration, and the engagement entered into with Kosoko, have been the means of dissolving a most

formidable combination which had been formed by the Kings of Dahomey and Porto Novo and the whole of the Popoes, the Kings of the Provinces of Jaboo and Ibaddan, together with Kosoko and his strong party, to surround Abbeokuta during the ensuing dry season, and make a grand effort to destroy the town.

This powerful combination is now dissolved, and the King of Dahomey has sent his messengers (in company with those of the Egbas, who had been several months at Dahomey) to declare his willingness to be at peace.

There are many circumstances in connection with the Badagry insurrection, and which followed it, upon which the Chiefs of the Popoe and other countries founded their apprehensions that the Egbas would, with English assistance, make themselves masters of their countries, of which I think it will be desirable Her Majesty's Government should be informed. At my earliest leisure I will draw up a report of the same, with a short history of the town, for your Lordship's information.

If I had studied my personal ease and convenience, I should have disregarded Mayoo's application to interfere with the King of Porto Novo. The consequences would have been a fierce struggle between the Popoes, with the King of Dahomey and Kosoko's forces on one side, for the reinstatement of Wawu and the other Chiefs, their countrymen, and the Egbas and Mayoo's weak force on the other side, to retain him at Badagry; a struggle that would have thrown everything into confusion, interrupted the peaceful pursuit of legitimate commerce, and, instead of the present peaceful state of things, with the Lagoon from Godomey near to Whydah to beyond Epé (a distance of 150 miles) bearing on its waters canoes laden with palm oil and other productions, these same canoes would have been filled with armed men, kidnapping and fighting, feeding the Slave Trade, and rendering the situation of Lagos critical and insecure.

I hope this explanation, together with the circumstance that the maintenance of peace in these parts is considered to be my duty, will, my Lord, partially remove the unfavourable view taken by your Lordship of my conduct with regard to Badagry.

No. 32.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 7, 1854.

ON looking over the printed correspondence, Class B, received at this Consulate by the last mail, I perceive that Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, in transmitting his periodical returns of vessels trading between that port and the coast of Africa, notices the very large shipments made to the coast of tobacco and rum by those vessels; and he very justly suspects that a large portion of this tobacco and rum must be intended for the purchase of slaves for exportation to Cuba.

From inquiries made I learn that at least 80 per cent. of the tobacco and rum shipped from Bahia is consigned to, or purchased by, Domingo Martinez; and that he has in store, at this moment, some 8,000 rolls of the former. I also learn that this roll-tobacco is almost the only article bartered for slaves.

Domingo Martinez, about this time last year, sent circulars to the Bristol and Liverpool houses engaged in the palm-oil trade on the coast, that he would furnish them with cargoes of palm oil at the rate of four gallons and a half for a Spanish dollar. This offer holding out, with the then and present prices of palm oil, the prospect of large profit, several vessels were sent to him, particularly from Bristol, with specie.

The first vessels that arrived were loaded in due course; but as the natives who manufacture palm oil do not require specie, and but a very small quantity of tobacco in payment for it, the supply of palm oil fell off, notwithstanding that Domingo Martinez, in consequence of the Badagry trade being closed, possessed the entire monopoly of the trade, of which he made a most tyrannical use, thus discouraging the natives to manufacture it.

The captains and supercargoes of these vessels appear to have delivered their specie, and a quantity of expensive plate ordered by Domingo, without stipulating the time within which he should undertake to load the vessels, or, in fact, making any written agreement with him whatever. As a consequence, I am informed, seven or eight vessels, representing nearly 3,000 tons, are now, some only partially loaded, and others have received no portion of their cargoes whatever; and further, Domingo Martinez has told the captains, after keeping them waiting eight, nine, and ten months, that he will not furnish them with cargoes except at an increased price for the oil, namely, three gallons to the dollar.

Domingo Martinez has sent presents and messages to the King of Porto Novo, with a view to get the King to send the traders with their palm oil to sell to him; but the King has refused to exercise any arbitrary power in the matter, and the traders are keeping their oil to sell to the first vessel that arrives at Badagry to trade.

Roll tobacco being the article almost exclusively paid for slaves, affords a fair indication from whence comes the supply of slaves that are sold to Domingo Martinez and the other slave-dealers; of this article there has been but a poor supply at Lagos, until lately that Senhor Jambo has landed a quantity, the greater part of which has been bought by the woman Tinnaboo on credit, and it is strongly suspected is to be paid for in slaves forwarded to Whydah, by way of Abbeokuta and Okeadan; whereas the markets in Abbeokuta are, and have been for some time past, glutted with tobacco, thus confirming statements repeatedly made to me by all classes, that the Egbas are the greatest slave-dealers throughout Yoruba.

With regard to the Sardinian vessels mentioned in the returns furnished by Mr. Consul Morgan, as trading with the coast of Africa, I beg permission, my Lord, to furnish you with the following information. The "*Adige*," "*Fulmine*," "*Iride*," "*Giuseppina*;" these four are fast-sailing vessels, built for the Slave Trade, and after landing their cargoes of roll tobacco and rum on the coast, are ready, if a good opportunity offers, to take a freight of slaves across to Cuba or Brazils; being under heavy bond not to sell the vessels on the coast, the Sardinian captains must see their way clear, and free from risk, before they will engage to ship slaves; hence the reason of their hovering so long on the coast.

The "*Volatrice*," mentioned in Return page 246, has been wrecked on one of the Canary Islands.

The "*Adige*," "*Lemigna*," and "*Porto Mauricio*," have taken cargoes of palm oil to England. The Sardinian vessels now on the coast are the "*Iride*," "*Judita*," loading with oil at Palma; the "*Maria*," and the "*Destina*" daily expected. Two Sardinian vessels, the barque "*Bella Leandra*," and brig "*Luigina*," both left this about a month since for London, with full cargoes of palm oil. Of the other vessels mentioned in Consul Morgan's returns, the Austrian barque "*Melinka*," I have reason to believe, left Porto Novo for England laden with palm oil.

The Portuguese barque "*Linda Flor*" brought 230 self-emancipated Africans as passengers from Bahia. After landing them here, I requested the senior naval officer off Lagos not to allow the "*Linda Flor*" to leave the roadstead until her extra water-casks, passenger-deck, and extra cooking utensils were landed, and I know that my request was strictly attended to, and the vessel sailed without these equipments.

The French vessels trading regularly, apparently, between Bahia and this part of the coast, belong, I believe, to the French factory at Whydah, except the "*Leonine*," which brought a cargo of roll tobacco and rum for Mr. Sandeman, an English merchant of this place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 33.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 12, 1854.

ABOUT six weeks since, a youth about sixteen years of age brought me a letter from Mr. White, the Church Missionary schoolmaster residing at the old town of Lagos, stating that the youth had complained to him that his mother and grandmother had been cruelly put to death by one of the Chiefs of Lagos, named Olomobong, for political reasons founded on gross superstition.

Rumours of secret murders being committed at Lagos reaching me from time to time, I thought it necessary to take formal notice of this case, and I deputed some respectable Sierra Leone emigrants to accompany Mr. Williams, the interpreter attached to the Consulate, to the King's house, to request him to institute an inquiry into the matter. This was done; and I beg to forward, in original, the report of Mr. Williams, and of the Sierra Leone emigrants who accompanied him to be present at the inquiry.

From the statements of the youth and the two children, all very intelligent, it would appear that on the occasion of Her Majesty's steamer "Minx" passing that part of the town where the King's house is situated, a great crowd of persons were collected to see the vessel pass, the channel being close in shore; the mother and grandmother were among the crowd, and they were overheard to express a wish that the vessel might bring back their King, Kosoko; this being reported to Olomobong, he put them both in chains, and charged them with exercising witchcraft to kill him and his family. The youth was sent on an errand some distance off by Olomobong, to be out of the way, and the children state, that one evening soon after, the King's staff came to Olomobong's house for their mother and grandmother, who were taken away, and they never saw them after.

Learning from the children that they in reality did not belong to Olomobong, and that they had an aunt living at Epé who would be glad to receive them, I requested King Docemo to deliver to me the youth and the two children to forward to their aunt; as it was evident that Olomobong would, after what had passed, either kill the children secretly, or sell them. In a few days the youth and children were sent to the Consulate, and I had an opportunity soon after of forwarding them to their aunt.

There has been a good deal of talk among the King's Chiefs on this matter, and Olomobong and the others are indignant at what they call my interference in their private matters; that having bought their slaves with their own money, they have a right to do what they please with them; and that they cannot suffer a foreigner to interfere and put down their customs and those of their ancestors; and much more such like talk.

Considering that the lives of these two women were sacrificed to appease the superstitious belief of Olomobong in witchcraft, and that the putting them to death was a breach of Article VII of the Treaty concluded by the late King Akitoye with Rear-Admiral Bruce on behalf of Her Majesty, on the 1st January, 1852 I thought it strictly my duty to interfere, as I have above reported to your Lordship; and I trust my doing so will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Mr. Williams, and others, to Consul Campbell.

Dear Sir,

Ologbowo, Lagos, November 13, 1854.

ACCORDING to your request, on the 13th of November instant, we, the undersigned, have called upon His Majesty King Docemo, and requested him to send for Olumagbon, and when he came we delivered our message to the King in the presence of the said Olumagbon; that two women by the name of

Lasike and Abeji (this Lasike is the mother of Abeji, and the said Abeji is the mother of three children by the name of Fiabi, Bioku, and Toguwa); and that these three children brought complaints to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul of Lagos that the said Olumagbon has murdered the above-named Lasike and Abeji on the 23rd of September last; and the day previous to their murder he sent the eldest of the children to a village called Ibese, and at his returning from Ibese, the said Olumagbon told him that his mother has taken a poison from Epé on purpose of poisoning the people.

The King then called Olumagbon in question, who states as follows: that just as the deceased had served him he also served them in return, and that he buy them with his own money.

We then asked him if he mean to say that he killed them? He replied that many of his relation died, and some of his children, both sexes, and that himself was reduced to poverty through them; for this reason he put them in prison, and that they die in prison.

We therefore inquire what kills them? and how many days were they in imprisonment? He replied, I cannot tell.

We ask him how many days one die before the other? He said all died the same day, and buried them the same day in his house. But why do you ask me such questions? I pay my money for them.

We then turn our question to the King, and said, if anybody buy a slave, did he allow to kill that slave? The King replied, no.

Previous to our going to the King, the children told us that this Olumagbon gave charge to all his wives that whoever mention anything about the death of these two women, he will either kill or sell such an one. From his own statements we concluded that he murdered them with his own hand.

(Signed)

S. B. WILLIAMS.

JAMES GOODING.

J. WOLLIDGE.

J. R. THOMAS.

J. M. TURNER.

J. C. DAVID.

No. 34.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received February 13, 1855.*)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 19, 1854.

I BEG to transmit for your Lordship's information copy of a letter I addressed by this packet to Mr. Consul Morgan at Bahia, with the copy of the translation of a letter to Mr. Morgan.

Not being able to get perfect translations at this place of any letter or document in the Portuguese or Spanish languages, I thought it best to forward the original letter itself.

I hope I have not been guilty of any irregularity in thus corresponding direct with Mr. Consul Morgan, my object being to save delay; and that your Lordship will, under the circumstances, approve of my having done so.

The transactions of the Slave Trade merchants at Bahia being almost exclusively with Domingo Martins and the other slave-dealers at Whydah, Aghwey, &c., I beg respectfully to suggest to your Lordship that it would tend to thwart the operations of slave-dealers, if Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia be instructed to communicate the equipment of vessels, or any Slave Trade movements at that port, through Her Majesty's Consul at Teneriffe, either to the Senior Officer of the Bights Division, or to this Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

Consul Campbell to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Lagos, December 14, 1854.

I BEG to transmit you a letter I have received from a young Portuguese or Brazilian, who has been living in a subordinate capacity with some slave-traders at Whydah.

I have reason to place some confidence in the statements contained in this letter, as some information I received from the same party about a year since, proved to be correct.

The writer of this letter lived there formerly, and when the whole body of slave-traders were expelled, there was a desire to retain him on account of the information he was able and willing to give of the manœuvres of the slave-traders; they, however, carried him away forcibly with them.

I have reason to suspect that the American barque alluded to in the letter is the "*Carrier Pidgeon*" of New York, belonging to a Mr. J. A. Machado, of that city, a Portuguese by birth, but now a naturalised citizen of the United States, and formerly extensively engaged in Slave Trade; the *locale* of his operations being between the Portuguese settlements on the south coast, Mozambique on the eastern coast, and Rio Janeiro.

The "*Carrier Pidgeon*" arrived about this time last year at Whydah (Ajudá), laden solely with lumber; she was vigilantly watched by our cruizers, and left the coast, 'tis said, after a stay of several months with sufficient palm oil to ballast her. After her departure the slave-traders boasted that the "*Carrier Pidgeon*" had been sent merely as a decoy, to attract the attention of the cruizers, while smaller vessels made their escape with their cargoes of slaves.

I have reason to believe that most of the slavers that escaped from the Bight of Benin some months since were protected by the American flag; as, however, they throw off this protection after having embarked the slaves, it is only on your side of the ocean that vessels so protected on this side can be captured.

There is a Portuguese brig laying in this roadstead of a suspicious character: she is called the "*Liberal*;" her captain's name B. J. Nogueira; she is apparently Oporto built; is heavily masted and sparred, the masts raking slightly; she has on board about 120 puncheons of palm oil, and 'tis said is bound to Bahia; the parties interested in her on this side are old slave-dealers.

I forward this through Her Majesty's Consul at Teneriffe to save delay, and I hope that Her Majesty's Secretary of State will approve of my having done so.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

* * * to Consul Campbell.

(Translation.)

Respected Sir,

Lagos, December 6, 1854.

HAVING been looked upon at Whydah as a spy giving information respecting the Traffic in Slaves, in consequence of a letter I wrote to Mr. Hansen informing him of a schooner that was expected from Bahia, and was coming out by order of Domingo José Martins, I was obliged to leave that place at the peril of my life. This gentleman has a large number of slaves on hand (which report says is more than 2,000); he has therefore sent lately an order for a larger vessel, which I believe is to be an American barque, chartered by Joaquim Pera. Marinho e Co., merchants of Bahia; she will first go to Porto Novo to discharge a part of her cargo, and then go on to Whydah to discharge the rest (rum and tobacco) to Senhor José Maria Cora. Brandão, and prepare to receive her other cargo. Mr. D. José Martins will not ship slaves at Porto Novo, in consequence of mercantile connection he has with some English houses. In the

Yervogar's house at Whydah is an immense number of slaves belonging to that gentleman ready for shipment.

At Porto Novo town is an Ebbar man called José do Paraizo, that was a babar* to Mr. Martins; this man is employed by Mr. Corlas José de Souza Nobre and other traders at Whydah to buy slaves for them, under pretence of buying them for hammock men.

I have, &c.
(Signed) * * *

P.S.—The destined point at Bahia is some new place outside the harbour that belongs to a Mr. Thomas Pera. Geumuabo, but I do not know the particular name of the place; there was a place inside the bay, an island, called "Ilhos dos Frades" (Isles of the Friars).

No. 35.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 20, 1854.

THE investigation into the case of the sacrifice of the two women, as reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 12th instant, has been the means of bringing to my knowledge a most fearful sacrifice of human life which took place after the death of Akitoye, and on the occasion of the present King making what is called the "customs" at his father's funeral.

In my despatch of last year, dated October 1st,† I reported to your Lordship that I felt myself at liberty to say that no human sacrifices had been made after the death of the late King Akitoye. As regards the sacrifices heretofore made on the death of a King of Lagos of several of his wives and domestic slaves, I have since had no reason to doubt the truthfulness of my report.

It now appears, however, that a number of the prisoners captured on the flight of Kosoko and his Cabooceers, on the occasion when the Commander-in-chief sent a force of boats under Commander Phillips, of the "Polyphemus," and reexpelled Kosoko from Lagos, in all about 80, were, from the death of Akitoye to the conclusion of the customs, killed in various ways; some being allowed to die the lingering death of starvation, others being beat to death with clubs, others, more mercifully, shot dead, or killed by decapitation, and a few drowned.

My information of these fearful proceedings proceeds from a young man who was himself a prisoner, and one of the intended victims, and an eye-witness of the dreadful massacres. Having been taught to read and write the Portuguese language, he sent me a detail of these shocking deeds in writing. He, himself, appears to have been saved towards the conclusion of the frightful tragedy, through the earnest intercession of his mother, who had also been taken prisoner by one of Akitoye's captains, and retained by him as a wife. The young man has since been taken on King Docemo's establishment, as one of his attendants.

It appears, from his statement, which I hesitate to give in its atrocious details, that Akitoye was averse to shedding blood, and opposed to the killing of the prisoners; but no sooner was he dead, than the woman Tinnaboo, with her husband Badda, who it appears is head executioner to the King, visited the prison from time to time; and after reproaching the goalers for giving too much water and provisions to the prisoners, would select one of these unfortunate people, and with their own hands dispatch him. Several were killed in detail in this manner, until the occasion of King Docemo making the "customs" at his father's funeral, when, it appears, the remainder, about 20, were dispatched in one night.

I now perfectly recollect, during the time these customs lasted, and when I exercised the greatest vigilance to ascertain whether any of the late King's wives or domestic slaves were being sacrificed (being quite ignorant by those persons who at that time professed to keep me informed of what was passing, of there

* Barber.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 38.

being any prisoners in the King's jail—having heard, and being led to believe, that all those persons captured from Kosoko's party had been sold at Badagry and Agido), that Mr. Marsh, one of the Sierra Leone people, awoke me one midnight, to tell me that his wife was in the greatest distress of mind, having heard from some acquaintance that a great slaughter of human beings was then taking place on the King's premises, and that early next morning I set on foot inquiries; but my attention being directed (in ignorance of the prisoners), solely to whether any sacrifices of the late King's wives and slaves had taken place, I learnt nothing of the fate of the unfortunate prisoners.

Among the names furnished to me of several of the prisoners put to a violent death, I recognize the name of one of the self-emancipated Africans from Brazil, named Rufino. On one of my visits to Epé, and in conversation with Tappa, he remarked that Kosoko had been charged with acts of cruelty and with sacrificing many lives; but that cruelties were now committed, and lives sacrificed in Lagos, to a great extent; and he wished me to satisfy myself of the fact, and particularly to make inquiries as to what had become of this same Rufino. I did so; and learnt from some of the Brazilian emigrants that he had been put to death by Docemo's people, they suspecting him of communicating with Kosoko; but the Brazilians entreated me to make no stir in the matter, for, if it came to the knowledge of the King or his people that they had communicated anything to me relative to their countryman's death, Rufino's fate would soon be theirs. In my informant's list, Rufino is stated to have been forcibly torn from his house, carried to the prison, stabbed to death by the executioners (of whom it appears there are four), and the body afterwards sunk, with weights attached, in the Lagoon.

I should inform your Lordship that the barbarous custom of sacrificing some of the wives and domestic slaves on the death of African kings, arises from the superstitious belief that after death in this world they instantly pass into life in another world, where they will require the services of those who had administered to their comfort and added to their importance in this world. This superstition is by no means confined to this part of Africa: it prevails also among the pagan natives in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone, but is not carried out there to the frightful extent it is in this great Slave Trade quarter of Africa; the Chiefs there being generally poor, and possessing but few wives and domestic slaves.

The slaughter of these unfortunate prisoners was therefore dictated by a fiendish spirit of revenge, which overcame all feelings of avarice; for there was not one of these prisoners but would have been redeemed at a heavy ransom had their lives been spared, as the following case related by my informant will show. A favourite Captain of Agineah's, captured during the flight, fell into the hands of one of Mayoo's people at Badagry: immediately it was known to Tinnaboo she despatched a well-known ferocious captain of hers, with a quantity of cowries, to buy the man at any price, and he was purchased by this fellow at double the usual slave price, who immediately took the prisoner to the fetish bush outside the town of Badagry, and put him to death in a manner too horrible to relate. Abadgee, another of Agineah's captains, who had the good fortune to make his escape from Lagos, on hearing that his friend and countryman was in the hands of the Badagry people, also sent a large sum in cowries to redeem him, and to pass him on to Abbeokuta. Abadgee's messenger on his arrival at Badagry found that the footsteps of revenge had outstripped those of friendship, and that the unfortunate man had suffered a most horrible death.

I have not yet brought my knowledge of these frightful deeds to the notice of King Docemo, as in the present feverish state of the town, arising from the return of some of the old slave-dealers, who have been welcomed by the King, the whole of the Chiefs, and Tinnaboo, and the hopes they now all entertain of a revival of the Slave Trade, it would be impolitic so to do, and might endanger the peace of the town. And further it will be necessary for me, before doing so, to secure the safety of my informant, Docemo having given out that he will put to death any Lagos people who inform the Consul of what passes in his town.

I have deemed it my duty to bring to your Lordship's notice this gross and painful violation of Article VII of the Treaty on the part of King Docemo and his Chiefs.

No. 36.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received February 13, 1855.*)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 21, 1854.

I HAVE to report to your Lordship that a decided attempt is being made to revive the Slave Trade at this place.

Senhor Marcos Borgas Ferras, commonly known as Senhor Marco, a Senhor Jambo, and a Senhor Joaquim Pereira Machado, all old slave-traders at this place, and expelled with several others when the present King Docemo came into power, have lately returned to Lagos, and been very favourably received by the King, his Chiefs, and the woman Tinnaboo.

Senhor Marco arrived from Accra by the steam mail-packet "*Bacchante*." Senhor Jambo, with an assistant, came in the Portuguese brig "*Liberal*," having a quantity of roll tobacco on board, and part of a cargo of palm oil. Senhor Joaquim Pereira Machado, with his assistant, Leonardo Pereira Morals, a clerk to Domingo Martins, arrived in the Sardinian brig "*Destino*," having a small quantity of rum and a large quantity of roll tobacco on board, ostensibly to purchase palm oil, but really to purchase slaves, as the "*Destino*" is unprovided with empty casks for palm oil, and such things are not to be purchased here at any price.

I did not hesitate to warn Docemo against allowing these people to re-establish themselves in Lagos. At first he gave me fair promises that they should not have the permission so to do.

After the arrival of the "*Destino*," Senhors Machado and Morals called at the Consulate, with a view, I thought, of sounding me as to whether they would be permitted to remain here. On my asking them the nature of the cargo they had brought for sale, they informed me 2,000 rolls of tobacco and a few casks of rum. I told them that Senhor Jambo had already glutted Lagos with tobacco; that he, Senhor Machado, would not be able to dispose of his tobacco to the merchants for palm oil, as it was not in request by them, and that if he sold it to the natives, they could offer him no other payment but slaves. Senhor Machado, with his assistant, then took his leave.

The next morning I received a message from King Docemo, ironically thanking me for having told Senhors Machado and Morals that they would not be allowed to remain in Lagos. Upon this I requested (the Consulate interpreter, Mr. Williams, being sick), three respectable Sierra Leone emigrants to go to the King and explain my sentiments to him relative to these slave-traders, and I furnished Messrs. Thomas, Goodin, and Turner, my messengers, with my message in writing, which they were to translate and explain to King Docemo.

On their return to the Consulate, Messrs. Thomas, Goodin, and Turner informed me that the King and Chiefs were all highly pleased with my message. This I could not comprehend, knowing how favourable they all are for a renewal of the Slave Trade; but I attributed this declaration of their pleasure to their usual hypocrisy.

On the following morning I learnt that my message had been, if not wrongly interpreted to the Chiefs, at least very improperly understood by them; as the Chiefs had congratulated each other, and the slave-dealers, at having obtained the Consul's permission for them to remain.

Upon this, Mr. Williams, the interpreter, being on the following day sufficiently well, I directed him to take a Mr. Nottidge with him, and to explain to the King and Chiefs the real meaning of my message relative to the slave-dealers, and at the same time to interpret to the King and Chiefs, and to leave with the former, my formal protest against these well-known slave-dealers, whom King Docemo had only fifteen months before expelled from Lagos, confiscating their property, being allowed to re-establish themselves in Lagos. The temper of the King and Chiefs on being acquainted with my real sentiments relative to the slave-dealers was rather ruffled, and the answer returned to me not satisfactory; and they wished to know whether Kosoko was in like manner tied down by Treaty not to allow slave-traders to reside with him.

I had previously furnished King Docemo, as well as the Alake or King of Abbeokuta, with a copy of Kosoko's Engagement. I nevertheless on the following

morning copied the IIIrd Article of the Engagement with Kosoko, and appended my remarks or message to King Docemo and his Chiefs, and again sent Mr. Williams and Mr. Nottidge to interpret and explain the same to them.

Messrs. Williams and Nottidge returned, bringing a vague promise from King Docemo that the slave-dealers will not be allowed to remain.

King Docemo has, nevertheless, given Senhor Marco a house to reside in; Senhors Machado and Morals have also obtained a house to remain in, are landing their tobacco and disposing of it, principally to Tinnaboo, and they intend shortly to dispatch their chartered vessel, the "Destino," back to Bahia.

Senhor Jambo has returned to Whydah in the "Liberal," and is to get back to Lagos by way of the Lagoon, doubtless after he has heard of the safe arrival of the slaves which it is notorious Tinnaboo has forwarded from this to Whydah, *via* Abbeokuta and Okeadon.

I should inform your Lordship that for several months past it had been hinted to me that Tinnaboo was corresponding with Senhor Jambo, inviting him and others to return to Lagos; and that the slave-traders were waiting for the protection of a French Consul, who it was asserted was on his way to Lagos, and was only waiting at Whydah for the arrival of the French brig-of-war "Entreprenant," to be brought to Lagos in a formal and official manner. About a week since I ascertained that this person, who gave himself out as the French Consul for Lagos, was no other than M. Louis Lamaignère, known in the Slave Trade annals as Don Luis, who for many years was either the partner or agent of Pedro Blanco at Gallinas and the Shebar.

It appears that Don Luis who, when at Gallinas, was well informed of what was passing at Sierra Leone, and of the movements of the squadron, having heard of Commodore Sir Charles Hotham's intention to destroy the slave factories at Gallinas, chartered an American vessel and went off to Bahia with all the property he could scrape together, and he has since been living at this latter place in an expensive style, which, coupled with gambling, is said to have placed him in reduced circumstances. I am informed he is connected at Bahia with M. Gantois. I hear of Don Luis being sometimes with Domingo Martins, and sometimes at Whydah.

Should Captain Villeneuve bring Don Luis with him I shall not fail to make him acquainted with the history and former occupation of Don Luis.

In confirmation of the intention of the slave-dealers to renew the trade at this place, I beg to transmit, for your Lordship's information, an original letter from Abbeokuta, showing the effect in that large town of the present movement in Lagos to renew Slave Trade. I have to pray that the writer's name be suppressed.

I regret being compelled to make to your Lordship this unfavourable report of King Docemo, from whom a better disposition to observe his Treaty engagement was expected.

In my despatch dated 24th November last, I reported to your Lordship that King Docemo and his Chiefs had, at my suggestion, allotted a piece of ground as a general market for the people of Epé, Badagry, and Porto Novo. This ground was being inclosed with an alacrity and energy quite unusual with the people of Lagos, and was nearly completed, when these old slave-traders arrived. Since they have been here and distributed their tobacco, not another stick has been cut for the fence, and the place remains incomplete.

I had procured with some difficulty messengers to send to King of Jaboo to accompany those of King Docemo, with presents, and a message to that Chief; the object being to get him to proclaim the opening of the markets of the Jaboo country to the people of Lagos. Docemo, on some frivolous pretext, declined sending to the King of Jaboo, and the native traders have since evinced no further interest in opening the Jaboo markets; and I hear from them nothing more about it.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

*Consul Campbell to King Docemo.**Lagos, December 16, 1854.*

THE Queen of England's Consul presents his best respects to King Docemo.

The Consul finds it necessary, in consequence of the message sent by the King this morning to the Consul, relative to the conversation that had taken place yesterday between the Consul and the two Brazillian supercargoes who called yesterday morning at the British Consulate, to inform the King that he did not tell the supercargoes he (the Consul) would not allow them to remain here. The supercargoes said that they wished to dispatch their vessel, a Sardinian brig, on account of the heavy sum paid for the hire of her, and the Consul understood them to say they, the supercargoes, intended to remain, to dispose of their cargo (tobacco), to which the Consul made no remark whatsoever as to their intention of remaining in Lagos.

The Consul disclaims having any right to dictate to the King who shall reside in Lagos, except in the case of British subjects, to whom that right has been secured by Treaty.

At the same time it is the Consul's duty to inform the King, that through the Queen's Consuls in the Brazils, and from other sources, it has come to the knowledge of the Queen's Government and of the Consul, that it is the intention of the slave-traders (those who were driven from here and those who are residing at Whydah) to again get a footing in Lagos, and re-establish themselves. It has also been reported to the Queen's Government, that the slave-traders here and their friends in the Brazils, intend purchasing slaves to ship to Brazils, and that the slave-traders in Bahia were shipping large quantities of tobacco to this part of the coast to their friends to buy slaves with.

Now, this part of the information is evidently true, for we see large quantities of tobacco brought here, which will never sell for palm oil, and can only be sold for slaves.

As the Queen's Consul is furnished by the Queen's Government with books containing reports of all Slave Trade matters that have occurred at Lagos and elsewhere, during the last twenty years, reports giving the names of the vessels, the names of the captains, and the names of the shippers of the slaves, and the numbers of the slaves shipped by them, it is only for the Consul to refer to these books when he hears that any slave-trader wishes to establish himself at Lagos, to see if his name appears in these books, and if the name should appear, it is then the Consul's duty to warn the King of the fact, and to protest against such slave-trader being allowed to establish himself in Lagos, and of its being a breach of the IInd Article of the Treaty, and then to report the same to the Queen's Government, which will take such measures for the enforcement of the Treaty as it may deem fit.

So satisfied is the Queen's Government of the truth of the information it has received from the Consuls in Brazils (which will be confirmed by what it will now be the Consul's duty to report), that the Queen's Government have reinforced the Commodore with additional steamers to watch the Bight of Benin, and there will shortly be six steamers and sailing vessels cruising in these parts to intercept the slave-vessels expected.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

*Consul Campbell to King Docemo.**Lagos, December 18, 1854.*

BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, deems it his duty to warn King Docemo that Senhors Marco Jambo and Machado, who are at present in Lagos, and seeking to re-establish themselves in this town, are notoriously engaged in Slave Trade, and formerly carried on Slave Trade in Lagos, and latterly in Whydah, and other places.

The Consul warns King Docemo against allowing the above-named persons, or any other person notoriously engaged in Slave Trade, to establish themselves in Lagos, as by doing so King Docemo will commit a breach of the IIInd Article of the Treaty concluded by the late King Akitoye with Rear-Admiral Bruce, and John Beecroft, Esquire, Her Majesty's late Consul, on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

It will be the Consul's duty to report to Her Majesty's Government this attempt of the old slave-traders to establish themselves again in Lagos, and it is now his duty to, and he does most solemnly protest, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, against the above-named Senhors Marco Jambo and Machado, and any other well-known slave-trader, forming any establishment in Lagos, or within the territory of the King of Lagos.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

Message sent by Consul Campbell to King Docemo.

"ARTICLE III. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, do most solemnly pledge themselves to abandon the Slave Trade, that is, the export of slaves from Africa; also not to allow any slave-trader to reside at their port or at any other place within their jurisdiction and influence."

The above is the IIIrd Article in the Treaty with Kosoko. It is much stronger worded than the Article in the Treaty signed by Akitoye, because Kosoko is forbidden to let slave-traders remain in any town where he has influence even.

You will please ask the King why these slave-traders have come here to Lagos, instead of going to Kosoko, at Epé.

When they set sail from Whydah the same wind that brought them here would have taken them to Epé. The Consul knows very well the reason they came here in preference to going to Kosoko, at Epé, first. The Consul knows well that Tinnaboo sent them letters some months ago inviting them to come to Lagos; that is, she sent letters to Jambo and others at Whydah, not to Marco at Accra: therefore these slave-dealers have come here by invitation of Tinnaboo, and with the full knowledge and consent of King Docemo.

There are other reasons why they did not, and moreover will not, go to Kosoko: they know that Kosoko has made a Treaty with the English, and that he will not break that Treaty; and they know that if they try to make a fool of Kosoko, what he will do to them. They know also that Lagos is a better place to get slaves quicker; there is a large population in Lagos, from which several hundreds can be, and are being, kidnapped. That the communication between Lagos and Abbeokuta is easy and very frequent. That the slaves they buy here and from the Egbas can be sent by way of Abbeokuta and Okeadon to Whydah. And the Consul knows very well that every night, slaves and people kidnapped in Lagos are crossed over to Aboo-te-ma-ta, to go to Abbeokuta, and from thence, by way of Okeadon, to Whydah.

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

* * * to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Abbeokuta, December 19, 1854.

IT is a general report about Abbeokuta that you are coming up to visit the Abbeokuta people. I would advise you to let your lodging be provided by the King himself. As the inhabitants in general do not understand your intentions and proceedings in the management of the affairs of this country: they think you are their enemy, and therefore wish their ruin. They all believe that you ordered the Badagry war.

Do not, should you come up to Abbeokuta, place yourself under any of the Chiefs of war; they are great rogues and rascals, especially Somoye, or Basherun, and Shogkenu. Shogkenu is kidnapping for sale the poor people who come

from the interior for the purpose of trading; these he catches, sometimes 6, 10, 20. Some time ago he accused one of his wives of having an unlawful child; after punishing the poor woman severely, he cut the child to pieces. This Shogkenu does anything with impunity. Basherun does always send to powerful Chiefs in the interior to catch their trading people, and sell them; this he does in order to put down lawful trade and promote kidnapping war. They have now sent out some of their soldiers to destroy a neighbouring town, and catch the inhabitants for sale. The Slave Trade is still carried on by the people; they take their slaves to Porto Novo. All the War Chiefs are for the Slave Trade.

Shogkenu has perhaps 200 wives. He took a Sierra Leone woman's daughter, by the name of Jenny Johnson, and kept her for about eleven years; but this last time the woman and her daughter ran away to Lagos. Shogkenu is now determined to demand the woman Jenny Johnson from you.

The people practise much irony.* Should you come up, come with a good, faithful interpreter. I should not wonder if the people slight you, or deal deceitfully with you; they are great rogues; they say "yes," when they mean "no." They will make fine or fair faces when they see you; but be cautious when among them. Their slave-traders saw you when you were at Porto Novo, and brought many slanderous reports against you. Mr. Townsend will second anything that is good, though he might make a mistake on former occasions, for he is much against the proceedings of the Chiefs in things that are wrong.

No. 37.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received February 13, 1855.*)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 22, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated November 23.

Your Lordship will, I hope, excuse the natural desiré I feel to offer such explanations of my motives for and conduct in countenancing the Badagry Chiefs to regain their town and homes, as I confidently trust will partially remove the unfavourable impression formed by your Lordship of my conduct in that matter.

Early in the month of November of last year I brought the conduct of Mayoo, the Badagry Chief, to the notice of the Commander-in-chief, Rear-Admiral Bruce, and furnished him with copies of letters fully confirming the information which had previously reached me relative to Mayoo's open violation of his Treaty engagement in assisting Domingo Martinez to obtain slaves.

My representation to the Commander-in-chief occasioned a strong letter on the subject from him to Mayoo, forwarded through this Consulate, of which I now do myself the honour to transmit your Lordship a copy.

The letter of the Commander-in-chief produced no effect whatever on Mayoo. Badagry was still the channel through which all slaves and kidnapped people from Lagos and Abbeokuta were forwarded on for sale to Domingo Martinez; and Mayoo still received his toll on each slave, notwithstanding he had burnt down the small shed on the beach under which his toll-keeper sheltered himself from the sun or the rain. Mr. Williams, the interpreter to the Consulate, a man of veracity, who arrived at Badagry from Sierra Leone in the latter end of November of last year, and who remained a short time there, informed me that slaves from Lagos still continued to be passed on to Domingo Martinez; and that on one occasion he was in conversation with Mayoo at the water-side, when a Lagos canoe arrived with slaves manacled; and that, after a short conversation with the Lagos people, Mayoo put one of his men, with his stick, into the canoe to cross over with them to the beach to receive the toll.

About this time the Chiefs of Little Popoe, Aghwey, and other towns on the seaboard, openly disregarded their Treaty engagements, and not only allowed but assisted in the embarkation of cargoes of slaves.

When the Commander-in-chief left Lagos, in November last year, I had

* Deceit.—B. C.

reason to expect his return in April or May of this year; and when, at the commencement of the present year, finding that Mayoo still forwarded slaves to Domingo Martinez, in total disregard of the caution and threat contained in the Commander-in-chief's letter to him of the 27th November, 1853, I threatened Mayoo with forcible expulsion, I was then under the impression that, on the gross violation of his Treaty being again brought to the notice of the Commander-in-chief, or, after his departure for England, to the notice of the senior officer, that the threat of the Commander-in-chief would be carried out; but when the division in the Bights was reduced to one vessel, the "Crane," and in the month of April Mr. Townsend offered his assistance and influence with the Abbeokuta Chiefs, to obtain the restoration of the Badagry Chiefs in a peaceable manner, I did not hesitate to proceed to rid Badagry of Mayoo's chieftainship by peaceable means, as detailed in my despatches to your Lordship dated 1st and 11th June, 1854.

The Badagry Chiefs, supported by the King of Porto, the Chiefs of the large neighbouring Popoe towns, and even by the King of Dahomey, because so urgent for their return, and determined to exercise their natural right to obtain their restoration, and Kosoko having sent his wives, children, and property to Adu, with the intention, it has now been ascertained, of assisting the Badagry Chiefs and obtaining for himself a footing at Badagry, it became necessary to take steps to prevent the serious disturbance throughout the country which would have ensued had not the Badagry Chiefs been reinstated.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Rear-Admiral Bruce to Mayoo, Chief of Badagry.

Sir,

"*Penelope*," November 7, 1853.

ON receiving the many applications that have been made to me to remove you from the office of Chief of Badagry, I have considered, not whether you are there as the legitimate Chief, but whether you have acted up honestly and faithfully to the Treaty for the suppression of Slave Trade in your country; and, under the impression that you had fulfilled every stipulation of that Treaty, I declined to take any part against you. But reports have reached me recently which convince me that I have been deceived in you; for there can be no doubt that you have assisted Domingo Martinez in his slave-dealings, and detained many people who have from time to time been kidnapped from Lagos. I now give you warning, that if you do not cease these practices and employ all your energies to bring about peace with your neighbours, and encourage lawful trade in palm oil and other produce, I will send an expedition against you, and remove you from Badagry.

(Signed)

H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

Consul Campbell to Mr. Moses.

Dear Sir,

Lagos, February 7, 1854.

WITH reference to the messages sent you by the King of Porto Novo, that it is the intention of the old Badagrians to go and take their town from Mayoo, if I do not go to Badagry soon, I have to beg of you to let it be known to the King of Porto Novo that I have been, and am now, much occupied with the affairs of Lagos, and cannot yet go to Badagry. That the old Badagrians cannot attempt to take Badagry by force without the King of Porto Novo's help; that it would be much better they should return to their town by peaceable negotiation and means, but that if they do not listen to my recommendation, and they attempt to regain the town by force, Her Britannic Majesty's

Government will consider the King of Porto Novo responsible for any injury done to British subjects or their property, or to the persons and property of the Sierra Leone people who are under British protection.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 38.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th of December last,* suggesting that you should be empowered to propose Treaties to the Chiefs of Adu and Okeadon, two towns in the interior, similar to the Treaties which have been concluded with the Chiefs on the sea-coast, and stating that the Chief of Agido had expressed his willingness to conclude a Treaty with Her Majesty's Government; and I have, in reply, to authorise you to conclude Treaties in the usual form with the Chiefs in question, if they should be willing to accept them.

I inclose, in compliance with your request, blank forms of the Treaties with African Chiefs; and I have to acquaint you that you are of course at liberty to sign such Treaties without previous reference to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 39.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of December last, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your having required King Docemo to investigate the charge brought against the Chief Olomobong of having caused two of his female slaves to be put to death on the 23rd of September last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 40.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 19th of December last, I have to state to you that I approve your having written to Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, and that I have instructed him to communicate to you, from time to time, such intelligence respecting the equipment of vessels at that port, or any movements connected with the Slave Trade, as he may consider likely to prove useful to you in your endeavours to thwart the proceedings of the slave-dealers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 41.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of December last, in which you report the slaughter by King Docemo's adherents of eighty persons captured from Kosoko's party; and I have to instruct you, when you shall be able to do so with safety, to inform King Docemo that Her Majesty's Government have learned these revolting atrocities with horror, and to demand an explanation of this violation of the VIIth Article of the Treaty of the 1st of January, 1852.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 42.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of December last, stating that three notorious slave-traders, named Marco, Jambo, and Machado, who were expelled by King Docemo in September 1853, have returned to Lagos, and have been allowed to establish themselves there, notwithstanding your remonstrances against this violation of the IIInd Article of the Treaty concluded between Her Majesty's Government and the King and Chiefs of Lagos on the 2nd of January, 1852.

I have to instruct you to communicate formally to King Docemo the regret and dissatisfaction of Her Majesty's Government, not only at his conduct in this matter, but also in regard to the general tendency of his late proceedings, and his manifest disposition to revive the Slave Trade, which, so happily for his country, had much diminished.

You will say that Her Majesty's Government had anticipated a very different course of conduct on his part, and, as they are animated by friendly feelings towards himself and his people, they regret that he is guided by bad advisers; and they strongly recommend him to be advised by the Consul who represents Her Majesty's Government, and whose conduct has been approved, which it would not have been if he had given advice contrary to the King's interest. But Her Majesty's Government wish King Docemo to understand that engagements made with the Queen of England must be respected, and that it will rest with him to choose between the friendship or hostility of Great Britain, and the good or bad consequences to himself which that choice will entail.

You will conclude by referring King Docemo to the IIInd Article of the Treaty of January 1852, and by requiring him, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, to expel from Lagos, within fifteen days, the foreign slave-dealers above mentioned, and also any others who may be there when this despatch reaches you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 43.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 6th and 22nd of December last,* in which you state the motives which induced you to interfere in favour of the restoration of the Chiefs of Badagry and the expulsion of Mayoo; and I have

* Nos. 31 and 37.

to state to you that, on taking into consideration the circumstances stated in these despatches, and the evidence which you have brought forward showing the participation of Mayoo in the slave-trading operations of Domingo Martinez, Her Majesty's Government are ready to admit the validity of the reasons which you have alleged in justification of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 44.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 23, 1855.

I RECEIVED on the 5th instant the duplicate of your despatch of the 1st of October, inclosing a copy of the Treaty which you, in conjunction with Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," concluded on the 28th of September last with Kosoko, the ex-King of Lagos, whereby Kosoko, on the one hand, engages to abstain from attacking Lagos, to abandon the Slave Trade, and to expel all slave-dealers from his present territory; and Her Majesty's Government are bound, on the other hand, to pay to Kosoko an annual allowance for his life of 2,000 heads of cowries, or 1,000 dollars, at his option.

I also received, on the same day, your despatch of the 24th of November, explaining the motives which led you to enter into this Treaty.

I have to observe that the amount of compensation which is promised to Kosoko by the VIth Article of the Treaty is much larger than Her Majesty's Government have ever engaged to pay under similar circumstances. Nevertheless, as it is desirable that Her Majesty's Government should avail themselves of every means which may hold out a reasonable security against the revival of the Slave Trade at Lagos, and as it is of importance that Kosoko should be bound not to carry on that Trade on his own account, and to prevent slave-dealers from residing in his new territory, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have deemed it expedient to approve this Treaty, which approval you will communicate to Kosoko.

And I inclose herewith, for your information and guidance, a copy of a letter which has been addressed to this office from the Board of Treasury, stating that the annuity in question of 1,000 dollars is to be paid by Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos at the close of each year during Kosoko's life, provided that the conditions of the Treaty shall be satisfactorily performed by him, and authorising you to draw bills for the amount, at thirty days' sight, upon the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury under the usual regulations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 44.

Mr. Wilson to Lord Wodehouse.

My Lord,

Treasury Chambers, February 21, 1855.

I AM commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to inform you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, with reference to your letter of yesterday's date, inclosing copy of a Treaty which was concluded on the 28th of September last, between Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, and Kosoko, the ex-King of that place, whereby Kosoko engages to abstain from attacking Lagos, to abandon the Slave Trade, and to expel all slave-traders from his territory, and Her Majesty's Government are bound to pay to Kosoko for his life an annual allowance of 2,000 heads of cowries or 1,000 dollars at his option, on condition that he shall faithfully perform his part of the Agreement in question; that my Lords are of opinion that the

annuity of 1,000 dollars stipulated by the Treaty should be paid by Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos to Kosoko during his life at the close of each year, provided the conditions of the Treaty shall be satisfactorily performed by him; and that Her Majesty's Consul should draw bills at thirty days' sight upon this Board for the amount, under the usual regulations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES WILSON.

No. 45.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 3, 1855.

IN my despatch dated 21st December last,* reporting to your Lordship an attempt made to revive the Slave Trade at this place, and the favourable manner in which certain old slave-traders formerly expelled from Lagos had been received by King Docemo and his Chiefs; and that these slave-traders were in the early expectation of the arrival of a French Consul through whose influence they reckoned upon support; and that I had ascertained that this supposed French Consul was no other than M. Louis Lemaignère, *alias* Don Luis, the former agent of Pedro Blanco at Gallinas and Shebar, I have now the honour to report to your Lordship that M. Louis Lemaignère made his appearance in Lagos about three weeks since. He arrived very early in the morning, accompanied by Senhor Jambo in a canoe, by way of the lagoon from Whydah.

On his arrival Senhor Jambo sent word to King Docemo that the French Consul himself would wait upon him at an early hour. King Docemo arrayed himself in all his finery, and received M. Lemaignère and Senhor Jambo in state.

After their conference with King Docemo, M. Lemaignère and Senhor Jambo waited on me. The former presented me with a letter of introduction from M. Sartigue, Gérant to the French factory at Whydah, stating the object of M. Lemaignère to be to establish a French factory at Lagos.

M. Lemaignère at the same time requested I would read an open letter of introduction he had received from the French Consul at Bahia, to the Commandant de la Station Française on the west coast of Africa. He then remarked that he had learnt there was an objection to Senhor Jambo and other Brazilians establishing themselves at Lagos; and I acquainted him that by the terms of the Treaty concluded by the late King Akitoje (the present King's father) with Her Britannic Majesty's Government, to which the Imperial Government of France had since become a party, no well-known slave-traders were allowed to remain in Lagos; and that Senhors Jambo and Machado, then in Lagos, came under that category.

M. Lemaignère then remarked, that intending to establish a French factory at Lagos, he required the assistance of some person initiated in the trade of these parts, and that he had brought Senhor Jambo with him; that in fact they were both interested in the cargo of the Portuguese brig "*Liberal*," part of which had been landed in Lagos.

After a few other general remarks, M. Lemaignère and Senhor Jambo took their leave.

I should observe to your Lordship that M. Lemaignère during his visit did not make the slightest allusion to the French Consulship.

I now learnt that Senhor Marco on his arrival here, as reported to your Lordship in my despatch above referred to, had engaged a house in Lagos for M. Lemaignère, in which he at once installed himself, and hoisted the French flag. He was soon visited by the Chiefs and others well known to be longing for a revival of the Slave Trade.

Perceiving the excitement occasioned by M. Lemaignère's arrival, and the hopes it gave rise to, I lost no time in making King Docemo acquainted with

his personal history, and the active part he had taken for several years in Slave Trade at Gallinas and Shebar, which were recorded in the printed *Slave Trade Correspondence*, of which I fortunately possess copies from the year 1838; and that it was my opinion that M. Lamaignère came to Lagos with the object of reviving the Slave Trade, and of assisting the expelled Brazilian and Portuguese slave-traders to regain a footing in Lagos, and that his establishment at Lagos, as well as the residence of the Brazilians and Portuguese, were alike forbidden by the Treaty.

King Docemo not paying much attention to my representations, I reported the whole circumstance to Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," the Senior Officer of the Bights Division, who at once peremptorily demanded of King Docemo the removal of all well-known slave-traders from Lagos; upon which King Docemo sent his stick to M. Lamaignère, and to Senhors Jambo, Machado, and others, to remove from Lagos.

Soon after the King's messenger had delivered his message to M. Lamaignère and the others to depart from Lagos, I received a letter from M. Lamaignère, which I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship in original. To this letter I sent the reply inclosed, and on the same day I received the letter No. 3 from M. Lamaignère, claiming my protection; to which I replied as per inclosed, copy No. 4; and I at once sent a message to the King, informing him that as M. Lamaignère had formally claimed my protection against his forcible expulsion, I requested he might be allowed to remain in Lagos until the arrival of the French ship of war "Entreprenant," when M. Lamaignère could make his case known to Captain Villeneuve. It was then intimated to M. Lamaignère that the order to remove from Lagos did not extend to him.

Several days having elapsed, and Senhors Jambo and the others being still in the town, and the population becoming greatly excited, Commander Miller again wrote to Docemo, calling on him peremptorily to expel the slave-traders. Upon this Senhors Marco and others took passage in a canoe, by way of the lagoon to Whydah; and a few days after Senhors Jambo, Machado, and M. Lamaignère, came to the Consulate, and the two former presented protests, which they desired me officially to note, protesting against myself as being the cause of their expulsion, &c. Their protests were noted as a matter of course; and M. Lamaignère, declaring he would not remain in Lagos if Senhor Jambo was compelled to depart, accompanied him shortly afterwards in a canoe to Whydah.

I hope your Lordship will approve of my having made known to King Docemo the former occupation of M. Lamaignère at the Gallinas and Shebar, and of my having pressed King Docemo to conform to his Treaty engagements. The return of these slave-traders, in the perfect confidence that they would be well received and protected by Docemo, his Chiefs and people, and that under the shelter of a French Consulate flag their expulsion would be prevented, created great excitement in the town. This circumstance, with other influences which were then and had been previously at work, led to a plot, which had for its object my assassination, and the expulsion or assassination of the English, and those who were supposed to be favourable to them.

The particulars of this conspiracy will form the subject of a separate despatch.

M. Lamaignère arrived at Whydah about four months since in a Sardinian brig, from Bahia, in which city he has been mostly residing since he left the Gallinas, just previous to the destruction of the slave factories there by Sir Charles Hotham in 1845 or 1846: he is connected with M. Gantois (Marbeck and Gantois), and the other houses in Bahia largely engaged in Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin, whose names figure in the translated correspondence found in Kosoko's house after his flight.

Your Lordship's attention has already been directed by Mr. Consul Morgan to the attempt being made by these Bahia firms to push the Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin. These firms, I am informed, have relied greatly on the assistance of M. Lamaignère, and through him on the protection of the French flag for their agents.

M. Lamaignère could not have contemplated on coming here that he would be recognised, and his former Slave Trade transactions known to any person here. Had he arrived at Lagos from France with the honest purpose of establishing a French factory for legitimate trade, although I should have felt it

my duty to apprise your Lordship of the circumstance of his arrival here, I should certainly not have made known his former Slave Trade occupations so long as he confined his operations to legitimate commerce; but coming as he did, accompanied by, and connected with, people notoriously engaged in Slave Trade, I considered it my duty to warn King Docemo of M. Lamaignère's former illicit transactions, and to report the whole circumstances to Commodore Adams and to the Senior Officer of the Bights Division.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 45.

M. Lamaignère to Consul Campbell.

M. le Consul,

Lagos, le 19 Janvier, 1855.

J'AI reçu hier au soir, du Roi de Lagos, la signification de par vos ordres, mon associé Pierre Jambo et moi sortir immédiatement de ce pays. Comme à mon arrivée ici j'eus l'honneur de me présenter à vous comme Français (que je suis) et porteur, pour MM. les Commandants des navires de la station Française sur la côte d'Afrique, d'une lettre de recommandation de M. le Comte Francis de Castelnau, Consul de France à Bahia, je croyais que notre maison, comme Française, serait en dehors de cette violation du droit des gens; mais, puisqu'il n'en est pas ainsi et dans l'absence de bâtiment de guerre de nation, je viens, M. le Consul, vous demander de faire retirer non seulement l'ordre que le Roi de Lagos nous a donné, comme aussi vous demander votre protection afin de pouvoir continuer nos affaires et recouvrer de divers négocians de cette place, la quantité d'environ 22,000 galons d'huile de palme, qui sont dûs à l'opération du brick Portugais "Libéral," dans laquelle je suis particulièrement intéressé pour la moitié.

J'attends avec anxiété votre réponse, et ai l'honneur de vous prévenir que j'ai déjà arboré le pavillon Français afin de protéger nos personnes et nos intérêts.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) L. LAMAIGNERE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 45.

Consul Campbell to M. Lamaignère.

Monsieur,

Lagos, January 19, 1855.

I HAVE given the King Docemo no orders whatever respecting yourself or Senhor Jambo; it is not my duty, nor is it in my power, to give any orders to the King, but it is my duty to warn him that you were formerly extensively engaged in Slave Trade at Gallinas and Shebar, and that such fact appears in the published correspondence on Slave Trade annually presented to the British Parliament, and furnished to all Her Britannic Majesty's Consuls. It is also my duty to call the attention of King Docemo to the circumstance that you have arrived here in the company of a noted slave-trader, and that you have, since your arrival, declared yourself to be the champion and protector of the slave-traders who were formerly expelled from Lagos by the present King, in conformity with his Treaty engagements to Her Britannic Majesty, to which Treaty the Imperial Government of France is also a party, and that it is but a just inference that the Slave Trade is your object in visiting Lagos.

I am, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 45.

M. Lamaignère to Consul Campbell.

M. le Consul,

Lagos, le 19 Janvier, 1855.

JE viens de recevoir votre lettre et ne répondrai pas à des accusations non fondées. Si je voulais feuilleter l'histoire j'y trouverais la seule réponse que je pourrai vous donner en ce moment. Je vais donc seulement répondre à l'accusation que vous me faites en disant que dès mon arrivée ici, je me suis déclaré le champion et protecteur de négocians d'esclaves, ce qui est faux et ne peut même pas être, attendu que la Traite est définitivement achevée partout, et que vous, M. le Consul, en votre qualité et d'après les Traités de votre nation avec le Roi de ce pays, savez très-bien avoir le droit de faire expulser et confisquer les biens de tous ceux que vous prouverez se livrer dorénavant à ce trafic. Je ne puis donc pas admettre cette argumentation de votre part, et en suis d'autant plus étonné, que mon intention formelle en venant établir ici une maison Française, était d'employer tous mes efforts pour éviter ou empêcher toute nouvelle tentative d'un semblable commerce, et avais aussi l'intention de me lier aux idées de la majorité des négocians de ce pays afin d'éviter tout motif d'intrigue et de désordre.

Quant à ce qui concerne mon associé Pierre Jambo, voilà déjà sept années que je le connais sobrecargue de navires de commerce licite, négociant avec tous les établissemens Anglais et Hollandais de la côté du vent, et ici, avec des négocians Anglais, ce qui fait qu'il me semble que votre accusation à son égard est encore mal fondée.

Les considérations que j'ai l'honneur de vous soumettre me font espérer que vous voudrez bien m'accorder la protection que je vous demande, car au cas contraire, je me verrai forcé à protester contre vous, ou contre qui de droit, pour tous les dommages et pertes qui pourront subvenir à nos intérêts et aux intérêts qui nous sont confiés. Enfin, quoique contre la force il n'y a point de résistance, je suis néanmoins décidé à résister à toutes les menaces et injures qui pourront m'être faits, protestant encore contre vous et en votre qualité de Consul d'une nation amie, pour toutes les conséquences et outrages qui pourront être faits au pavillon de ma nation que j'ai déjà arboré.

Recevez, &c.

(Signé)

L. LAMAIGNÈRE.

P.S.—Répondez-moi, s'il vous plait.

Inclosure 4 in No. 45.

Consul Campbell to M. Lamaignère.

Monsieur,

Lagos, January 19, 1855.

I HAVE received your letter of this day, in which you solicit my protection against the order given to you by the King Docemo to leave Lagos.

I have to inform you that, having claimed my protection, I shall inform the King of the circumstance, and request him to withdraw his order to you to leave Lagos, and to await the arrival of Captain Du Creste Villeneuve, the Commandant of the subdivision of the French squadron stationed in the Bights of Benin and Biafra.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

B. CAMPBELL.

No. 46.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 12, 1855.

FOR several months past there has existed on the part of King Docemo, his Chiefs and people (domestic slaves), and a few of the mischievous disposed Sierra Leone people, and self-emancipated Africans from Brazil, a feeling and disposition hostile to the English residents generally, and to myself in particular. This feeling displayed itself after my first visit to Epé, Kosoko's residence, and it was grounded on reports industriously spread among the ignorant and uncivilised population, that I intended to restore Kosoko to his former position in Lagos, and that the whole of the merchants were favourable to his restoration.

My last visit to Epé, in company with Commander Miller, although it resulted in obtaining a solemn engagement on the part of Kosoko and the whole of the Chiefs not to disturb the peace of Lagos by threats of open attack, or attempts by stratagem to regain power here, and in rendering transit on the Lagoons for many miles perfectly safe and free (which is the case up to this moment), did not in the least allay the ill-feeling towards myself and the whole European mercantile community; on the contrary, this hostile feeling increased to the extent of leading to a conspiracy by some of King Docemo's leading domestic slaves, the woman Tinnaboo, and some others, to get rid of myself by assassination, and of the English merchants and the leading men among the Sierra Leone and Brazilian emigrants known to be favourable to the English, either by assassination or forcible expulsion, and secret meetings were nightly held at Tinnaboo's house to devise means to carry out their objects.

The excitement caused by the return of some of the expelled slave-traders, and afterwards by the arrival of M. Lamaignère (Don Luis), greatly augmented the existing ill-feeling of a large portion of the population towards myself; and friendly warnings which I had previously received, not only from persons in the town of Lagos, but even from Kosoko and from the King of Porto Novo, to guard against poison and not to be from home after sunset, were again repeated with great earnestness; and the information conveyed to me that, on the occasion of my paying an evening visit a short time previous to a Mr. Grote, at the Hamburg establishment, near the King's house, it had been determined by some of the King's people, had I remained till after dark, when the crowds in the street were dispersed, to shoot me as I rode homewards.

Commander Miller, calling on King Docemo to expel the slave-traders, appeared to bring matters towards a crisis. Antonio Martins, one of the Brazilian emigrants, a man of great intelligence and sagacity, in credit with the merchants and doing an extensive business, being known to be friendly disposed towards the English and other merchants, and commanding the services of some 150 well-armed devoted domestic slaves, with whom he would fly to the assistance of the merchants when attacked, was fired at in open day on his premises near the water-side, by one of King Docemo's people, and narrowly escaped being hit. This occurrence created considerable ferment, the more so as it had become known that the King and Tinnaboo had been secretly sharing out powder and ball to their people. There being none of Her Majesty's ships off Lagos at the time, I sent for Antonio Martins, and recommended him not to make any stir at the moment, but to wait till there was a force off Lagos. However, a general feeling of uneasiness pervaded the town; every one felt that an outbreak was at hand; beyond those implicated in the conspiracy, but a few knew its object. This state of insecurity led to a general arming. The day was now named when the attack was to take place, and Antonio Martins was warned by one in the confidence of the conspirators, but friendly to him, that his premises were to be first attacked.

I now assembled the leading men among the Sierra Leone emigrants, informed them of the expected general attack against the English and those favourable to them; that if successful against myself and the other Europeans, it would afterwards be directed against them; and I enjoined them to arm themselves at once, and to keep a strict night watch through their quarter of the town. My advice was at once acted upon, and its necessity soon became apparent; a large armed party of the King's people were seen that night to

proceed towards the small country-built house I had removed into after Mr. Sandeman's return to Lagos; they were followed at a distance by a guard of the Sierra Leone people, who, perceiving they took the direction towards Antonio Martin's premises, and knowing them to be well protected, the guard returned. It afterwards appeared that this armed party had gone to Antonio Martins, hoping by stratagem, and supposing their designs to be unknown, to surprise the place; they, however, found every one on the watch and well armed, and the party then returned.

The next morning, seeing how very insecure was the house I had moved into, that it was liable to be fired and surrounded, I returned, with his permission, to Mr. Sandeman's house, taking with me the archives of the Consulate, my books, clothing, &c. This house being situated on an elevated point of land near the water-side, and the neighbourhood being composed of the residences of the Sierra Leone people, it is to some extent protected from a sudden attack, and was sought as a refuge by others whose dwellings were in exposed situations.

I now sent word to King Docemo that I was fully cognizant of the conspiracy, and of the parties implicated in it, and the objects they had in view. I wrote to Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," begging him to send in such force as he had at his disposal for our protection, and as a demonstration, who promptly complied with my request, and for three days all the disposable men from the "Crane," occupying three armed boats, remained off Mr. Sandeman's house.

At my request some of the most intelligent of the Sierra Leone people instituted an inquiry, which resulted in their ascertaining that an extensive conspiracy had existed among different sections of the population. One, headed by Tinnaboo and the King's people, had for their object, first, my assassination and the expulsion of the leading Brazilian and Sierra Leone emigrants known to be favourable to the English; if successful, it was then their intention to have deposed Docemo, and put a son of the late King Adele on the Throne of Lagos. Some of Docemo's Captains, those having at command the largest number of fighting men, countenanced this plot so far as the getting rid of myself, the other Englishmen, and the Sierra Leone and Brazilians; but, their object was, to depose Docemo and to recall Kosoko. It would appear that Docemo was aware of their intentions, so far as regarded the Brazilian people, whom he looked upon as friends of Kosoko; but he was kept ignorant of the ulterior intentions as affected himself. But there are not wanting persons who believe him to have been cognizant of the intentions of the conspirators towards myself and the English generally; the favourable manner in which he received the returned slave-traders, they having been heard to say, that if the present Consul was shot it would deter any other person from accepting the appointment; and that they had got rid of Mr. Duncan, driven away Mr. Fraser from Whydah, and no other Consul had been sent there, giving grounds for their opinion.

Commodore Adams arriving off Lagos shortly afterwards, I communicated to him all that had taken place. After a consultation with the present Senior Officer, Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," and myself, it was decided that the Commodore would formally call on King Docemo to execute the man who fired on Antonio Martins, and expel from Lagos the woman Tinnaboo, Mahma, a leading man among the conspirators, one of Docemo's head slaves, a man of very bad character, and some others implicated in the intended outbreak.

I went, accompanied by Commander Skene, to King Docemo, and through a letter addressed by Commodore Adams to the King, it was made known to him what it was expected he would do to maintain the peace of Lagos, and to secure the lives of Her Majesty's subjects residing in Lagos; and he decided on executing the man who fired at Antonio Martins, and banishing Tinnaboo, Mahma, and some others. The former being in the same prison with Mahma, this daring fellow persuaded or intimidated the jailor into letting him escape. King Docemo on acquainting me of the escape of the prisoner on the following day, also informed me that he had determined on executing Mahma; and his determination was carried into effect the following day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 47.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 15, 1855.

THREE weeks since I received a letter from Dr. Irving at Abbeokuta, written at the request of the Alake (King) of Abbeokuta and his Chiefs, informing me that they had received information, in the correctness of which they placed confidence, that the King of Dahomey was preparing to attack Abbeokuta with his own troops, and assisted with a large force from the King of Ashantee.

For some months past rumours of such intention on the part of the King of Dahomey were current. A few days before the receipt of Dr. Irving's letter I had received information, on which I placed reliance, that the King of Dahomey had received considerable presents, and a large supply of muskets and ammunition from the Slave Trade houses in Bahia, to induce him to make another attack on Abbeokuta. I lost no time in acquainting the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta with this information, and my letter to them crossed theirs to me on the road.

The Alake and Chiefs having requested a supply of powder and some shot to fit the field-pieces which had been presented to them by Her Majesty's Government, I assembled the principal Sierra Leone people residing in Lagos, and represented to them the necessity of assisting their countrymen in this juncture; they responded to my representation by shortly dispatching about 1,000 lbs. weight of gunpowder; and I took the opportunity of sending them a supply of shot and grape for their field pieces, which I had had by me for some time when we were apprehensive of being attacked by Kosoko; and on hearing subsequently from Dr. Irving that several of the Sierra Leone people at Abbeokuta were provided with percussion muskets, but had neither caps nor ball cartridge, I applied to the Senior Officer, who at once furnished a supply, which I immediately sent off to Dr. Irving.

I have also represented to King Docemo the propriety of his assisting his friends; and he has promised me that he will send them a quantity of iron bars to make ball, and fifty kegs of gunpowder.

I have also written to the King of Dahomey a warning letter, copy of which I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship; and I have addressed a letter to Kosoko, to the King of Porto Novo, and to the Chiefs of Badagry, calling on them not to aid the King of Dahomey in his intended attack on Abbeokuta, and to restrain the people under their influence from joining the Dahomian forces.

On the arrival of Commodore Adams a week since, I brought to his notice the apprehended attack on Abbeokuta, and he gave me a letter to forward to the King of Dahomey couched in the same sense as mine.

Should the King Gezo receive those letters before he has gone too far, it is not improbable he may make the interference of the English an excuse for abandoning his enterprize.

In explanation of the concluding part of my letter to King of Dahomey, I feel bound to inform your Lordship that were the just principle *audi alteram partem*, adopted in judging of the differences between the King and the Egbas, it would be found that Dahomey's first attack on Abbeokuta cannot be considered as quite unprovoked. I have in my possession a list of more than twenty-five of the towns and large villages on the Dahomian frontier which have been swept from the face of the earth, and their inhabitants either slain or taken captive by the Egbas, prior to the Dahomian attack on Abbeokuta; and another list of more than twenty large towns and villages that have met a similar fate at the hands of the Egbas since the Dahomian attack on their town, independent of the long siege by the Egbas of the fortified town of Adu, which town Dahomey considers as the key to his dominions on the eastward, and to the territory ruled over by his relative the King of Porto Novo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 47.

Consul Campbell to the King of Dahomey.

Lagos, January 26, 1855.

BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Esquire, Consul to Her Britannic Majesty Queen Victoria for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, sends his best respects to His Highness Gezo, King of Dahomey.

The Consul has heard, with great pain and uneasiness, that the King of Dahomey is now on his road, with a large army of Dahomians and Ashantees, to Abbeokuta, with the intention of attacking that town, destroying it, and killing and enslaving its inhabitants.

The Queen of England's Consul warns His Highness the King of Dahomey that there are in the town of Abbeokuta several subjects of Her Majesty the Queen of England, employed in the peaceful, innocent, and good object of introducing among its inhabitants the pure and holy religion of Jesus Christ—the only religion which leads to civilization, and which has civilized those portions of mankind which have embraced it; and that any wrong or injury done to the Queen of England's subjects, so usefully and innocently employed, by the armies of the King of Dahomey, will draw down on the King the great displeasure of the Queen of England's Government, and of the whole Christian world.

The Consul also reminds His Highness the King of Dahomey that there are residing in Abbeokuta about 3,000 Africans of the Yoruba nation, who were liberated from slavery by the philanthropy and benevolence of the English, taken to Sierra Leone, there made free, taught the Christian religion, and some of the useful trades and occupations of civilized life. That, although these people have returned of their own free will to the land of their fathers, the Queen of England's Government and her people continue to feel the greatest interest for their present and future welfare; and that the killing or again enslaving those people who have once been made free by England will be looked upon with indignation, and not without a feeling of horror, that, if they should fall into the hands of the King of Dahomey's soldiery, it may be the fate of some of them to be sacrificed at those annual cruel customs, the bare description of which, by those who have witnessed them, makes every Christian heart in England bleed with horror.

The Consul, therefore, in the hope that this letter may reach the King's hands in time, most seriously and solemnly entreats him to abandon his intended attack on Abbeokuta, and to call home his armies. Should the King disregard the Consul's entreaty, then the Consul must remind the King that, should a good providence protect Abbeokuta on the present, as on the King's last attack on that town, defeat will bring ruin, disgrace and mortification on the King; which, combined with the suppression of the Slave Trade, may prostrate his power for ever; but that, should unhappily the King's overwhelming force prevail, and the Queen of England's subjects be killed or maltreated, then the Queen will have right to demand redress from the King of Dahomey, whose dominions are bounded on one side by that ocean through which the King receives his supplies, and on which the Queen's power, through her ships of war, is irresistible.

In the hope that, on this friendly letter being read to, and understood by the King, he will abandon his present enterprise, the Consul offers the King the friendly and impartial interposition of the Queen of England's Government, to bring to a friendly settlement any existing disputes between the King and the people of Abbeokuta, and that the whole influence of the Queen of England's Government with the people of Abbeokuta shall be employed to restrain them from giving cause of offence for the future to the King of Dahomey, his allies, his Chiefs, and people.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Biafra.*

No. 48.

Consul Beecroft to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to state, for your Lordship's information, that I left this place in Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope" on the 18th ultimo, for the purpose of delivering the annual presents to the Kings and Chiefs in the various rivers in the Bight of Biafra, and returned from the last river visited (Cameroons) on the 10th instant.

I beg leave to inclose a brief journal of my proceedings while on that duty.

At Bonny, I found it necessary to depose King Pepple, and beg leave to inclose the papers connected therewith.

I have further to acquaint your Lordship that I have detained the first of the presents sent out for New Calabar, as it was proved that King Ammacree and his Chiefs had negotiated with a slaver subsequently to the signing of the Treaty with England for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade. I beg leave to inclose a portion of the "*Restorado's*" Slave Trade book while in the New Calabar river, involving three of the Chiefs in this nefarious proceeding. Now, although Ammacree gave information to the white men in the river, of the purpose for which the "*Restorado*" had come, and which eventually led to her capture, yet, in my estimation, whatever might have been his real intention in regard to her, he forfeited all claim to the presents. In my opinion, the simple act of negotiation, the promise on his part to supply a certain number of slaves on condition of being paid a certain price, was to all intents and purposes a breach of that faith, for the keeping of which inviolate these presents were to be given. No doubt, the measure will make them more careful in future. I wait, however, your Lordship's direction as to their disposal. This slave-vessel was captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Ferret*," in March last year.

On the application of the masters and supercargoes in this river, I interfered in a quarrel that had existed for some time between the New Calabar and Eganny people, to the great detriment of the trade of the river, and obtained from the King and Chiefs a written promise to settle the dispute within one month.

I have the honour to inclose Appendage to the Old Calabar Slave Trade Treaty of the 6th December, 1841, and beg to refer your Lordship to my journal for my other proceedings in that river. I inclose, also, the whole of the papers in connexion with the delivery of the presents.

I trust my proceedings will meet with your Lordship's approbation.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

*Journal of Proceedings in the Rivers Bonny, New Calabar, Old Calabar,
and Cameroons.*

ON January 19th, Her Majesty's Consul, John Beecroft, Esquire, arrived in Bonny, to investigate King Pepple's conduct, and at the request of the masters conveyed in two letters on December 17th and December 31st.

January 20th, at 10 A.M., went on shore, and convened a meeting of King Pepple and Chiefs. The first point entered upon was Pepple's reason for trying to commence a war with New Calabar, which he denied, and said such was never his intention. The Chiefs said it was his intention, and that they accompanied him as far as in sight of Young Town, without knowing his intention was otherwise than to visit his mother's country, Billa; and upon arriving there, he requested them to lay in wait at a certain point, which the Calabar men must pass on their way to the ships, which they refused, telling him they did not come to war.

The next question was relative to whether, if the Consul reinstated him, prohibiting him from all trade, and allowing him two-thirds of the "coomey" for his support, he would remain as King, and conduct the business of the country as formerly. Upon consideration, he answered he would do so.

The Chiefs were then asked if they would keep him as King upon these terms. They answered, they were tired of his rule, and did not wish him to remain King any longer, bringing a series of charges against him, such as oppression and tyranny.

The Consul then inquired whom they had appointed for his successor, if he was removed from being King, as he could not allow the country to remain without a headman. They answered, Prince Dappo, the son of an elder brother than Pepple, and the rightful heir. The Consul informed them he should draw up certain laws, restricting him from all trade, &c., allowing him two-thirds of the "coomey" for his support, and that his whole time must be given to governing the country; to all of which they were agreeable.

Upon Prince Dappo being proposed, Pepple claimed the protection of the Consul, and begged to be removed to Fernando Po, to which the Consul consented.

Shortly afterwards, the whole of the Chiefs said, that sooner than Pepple should be taken away, they would let him be King again. They also said they thought if he was taken away, the Eboe men would not pay either his debts or theirs. It was elicited from them that the chief reason they did not wish him to go was, that they might be called upon to pay his debts, and that it was contrary to their *jew-jew*. The Consul explained he was not taking him away, but allowing him to go at his own request. The Chiefs then retired to discuss, and afterwards said they did not care where Pepple went, if he paid his debts first.

The whole of this day and the 21st were devoted to hearing palavers, and going through the book.

On the 23rd, Pepple was pronounced deposed, and Prince Dappo formally elected King, under the title of King Dappo, the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Antelope" firing a salute of twenty-one guns.

The 24th and 25th were spent settling palavers at New Calabar, where a book was given by the Chiefs, promising to settle the Eganny trade in one month from the date, under heavy penalties. The presents from Her Majesty the Queen of England were refused to be delivered over to the King and Chiefs, upon proving that they had trafficked with the slaver captured by Her Majesty's ship "Ferret" in March last, and subsequently to the making of the Treaty.

The 26th, 27th, and 28th, were occupied in surveying and laying down buoys at the entrance of the Bonny.

Sunday, 29th.—Weighed at 3 P.M., and proceeded, and anchored in Clarence Cove at 10 A.M. next day, when Pepple and suite were landed. A smart tornado at the time. The remainder of the day was occupied in arranging for Pepple's accommodation, &c.

Tuesday, 31st.—The greater part of this day was spent in arranging some affairs with my own people. Embarked at 5:30 P.M., weighed at 6 o'clock, and shaped a course for Old Calabar.

Wednesday, February 1st.—Daylight, East Head, N.N.E. Anchored off Duke Town at 1:30 P.M. Found seven ships in the river. At 2:30 P.M. Commander Young and myself in his gig left for Creek Town, to call upon King Eyo, and to invite him on board Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope" the next day, to receive the last of his presents. He was very glad to see me. We remained with him half an hour. In returning to the steamer, we encountered a shower of rain, although it is the dry season. Arrived on board a little after sunset.

Thursday, 2nd.—6:30 A.M., went on shore, accompanied by Commander Young. Waited on Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, missionaries of the Scotch Presbyterian Church. They represented a few grievances under which they alleged they laboured, and Mr. Anderson was requested to be on board at 10 o'clock to meet the Chiefs, &c. The same message was sent to King Duke Ephraim and his Chiefs, with the intimation that, as they had no clock, a gun should be fired, and a flag hoisted at the fore to indicate the hour, particularly requesting them to be on board to time. Returned on board. 10 o'clock, King Eyo made his appearance in a ship's boat, canoes following with banners flying. The quarter-deck of the steamer was adorned with flags; he was much pleased with his reception. His presents were delivered to him. King Duke Ephraim did not come on board until near 12 o'clock, when I rebuked him severely in the presence of King Eyo and his Chiefs. His presents were delivered to him, and he returned to Duke Town immediately. King Eyo, with the masters and supercargoes, took luncheon on the quarter-deck. He left, with his Chiefs, at 2:30, with a salute of seven guns. 4 o'clock, visited Old Town; called upon Mr. and Mrs. Edgerley, Presbyterian missionaries. Saw Captain Calvert, master of the ship "Calabar," and his wife: he is indisposed. Mr. Edgerley complained to me of a man named Bundoo, one of Old Willy Tom's slaves, having insulted Mrs. Edgerley. We called on old Willy Tom. He was very sick, apparently not long for this world. Requested him to send Bundoo off to Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope," to have the matter investigated. Took our leave, and returned on board the steamer. Midnight, a passing shower of rain.

Friday, 3rd.—6:30, went on shore; took breakfast with Mr. and Mrs. Anderson at the mission-house, to be in readiness for the conference to be held in the school-room of the mission with the King and Chiefs, &c., at 10 o'clock. Circulars, giving intimation of the conference to be held, had been issued the previous evening. I was gratified in finding them all punctual in their attendance. Various palavers were entered into and discussed, the chief being the practice of infanticide, and the custom of human sacrifice, a Treaty providing for its abolishment having been signed by them two years ago; but there is too much reason to fear it is still done in secret. Another matter brought forward was the unlawful detention of boats and people from Fernando Po on frivolous pleas. I pointed out to the younger people the folly of allowing themselves to be led by the nose in their misdeeds by a few old fools, imbued with absurd superstitious notions—King Duke Ephraim being one of them. I rebuked him severely, and told him that he was unfit to rule, that he must reform and mend his ways. However, time, it is to be hoped, will do all: when the few old superstitious people now remaining go hence, there is every probability that the rising generation will throw to the winds those silly and cruel practices, the cause of unhappiness to thousands, and the curse and bane of their country. I fined a slave belonging to John Archibong, a Chief, 2,000 copper rods, for an assault on Mr. Edgerley; the fine was paid within two hours, to be appropriated for the benefit of the mission. The Court then adjourned, all apparently well satisfied. Took our leave of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Edgerley, &c., and returned on board.

Sunday, 5th.—Hazy. Made out Cape Cameroons, and stood for it. Anchored with Green Patch, north. Sent gig and cutter to sound. Weighed

and proceeded cautiously across the flats; picked up the boats, and anchored at 2 p.m. between Bell and Acqua towns. Mr. Blyth and Captain Kirby, from the hulk "Alexander Grant," visited us. In the course of the evening one of the Dido Town Chiefs came on board, anxious to know what palaver brought the steamer there. He left rather uneasy on hearing that King Pepple was at Fernando Po.

Monday, 6th.—Hazy. Visited the Baptist mission and the Acqua Town Chiefs; they looked solemn, and appeared to be in a very low key. Left them and returned on board. After breakfast Commander Young accompanied me on shore to call on King Bell. Talked over some palavers with him relative to the detention of boats and canoes. I told him that all such matters should be settled by a meeting of masters, supercargoes and Chiefs, the decision of such meeting being final, and the aggressor in all such cases fined five puncheons of good palm oil, according to Treaty. Judging from his talk, it would appear that there would be much difficulty in effecting this, from want of confidence in, and good feeling towards each other among the Chiefs. Took our leave and returned on board. After dinner Commander Young and myself visited Hickory, or Old Bell's Town; being near sunset, we were obliged to curtail our visit. The Chief Presso Bell is one of the best Chiefs in Cameroons.

Tuesday, 7th.—Daylight: cool and pleasant. 6:30 went on shore; visited the mission and the Chief of Acqua Town. In the afternoon Commander Young and myself visited Ned Dido's Town, called on Charles Dido, who had taken and detained a Krooboy from a Fernando Po boat. I rebuked him, and told him that the Chiefs, &c., ought to have fined him five puncheons of palm oil, but it was very evident to me, that the Chiefs being all as deep in the mud as he was in the mire, could not with the spirit of independence they ought to possess, meet, adjudicate, and enforce a penalty in such cases, for they have all, more or less, committed themselves by detaining slaves and canoes, and thus causing palavers to the great detriment of trade. He was inclined to be insolent. We walked to the beach; I demanded the Krooboy, and he was delivered up to me, telling me, at the same time, that he would not have given him up to any other person. They made a great clamour about the alleged detention of some of their people at Fernando Po, to which place they had gone as labourers on hire. I told them that all their people at Fernando Po were at perfect liberty to return, but that no force should be used to compel them to do so; that, very naturally, many preferred remaining there free, to returning to Cameroons and slavery; that they had better go over themselves and look after their people; advised them not to send over any more of them, and told them that during the whole time I had resided there, I had not once employed one Cameroon man or boy. I requested Charley and Ned Dido to come on board to-morrow at 10 o'clock, and took our leave.

Wednesday, 8th.—6:30, went on shore, and walked to Acqua Town; saw Dido and Tim Acqua, and desired them to be off at 10 o'clock. Returned on board. I then read the Commercial Treaty to them, the Treaty for the protection of missionaries, and the document granting a piece of ground for Christian interment. I then reminded them that they had broken the Treaty by the detention of canoes and boats, and by demanding coomey from ships not lying off their beach. I rebuked them, and strictly enjoined them not to allow these things to happen again. They promised that they should not. I told them I would come on shore at 5 o'clock, accompanied by Commander Young, and inspect the ground set apart for the interment of Christians; accordingly at that hour we went on shore with the Chiefs and Mr. Horton Johnson. They pointed out a thick bush called "jew-jew," which they gave to the mission to clear and inclose for the purpose before mentioned. I told them it would be a great benefit to the town and all concerned to have it cleared away; this, owing to some of their superstitious foibles, they said they dare not do. Took our leave, and returned on board.

Thursday, 9th.—6:30, Commander Young accompanied me on shore; met John Acqua (not present with the other Chiefs yesterday), Mr. Horton Johnson, and the Acqua Town Chiefs; they had commenced to clear away the bush, but

were interfered with by John Acqua, who said he feared the mission would build houses upon the ground, and encroach on the road from the town to the beach. I found, however, that this matter could be easily arranged, if I would draw out a document to the effect that no houses should be built on the ground, that the land should not be appropriated to any other purpose whatever, save that of a Christian burial-yard, and that no encroachment whatever should be made on the road from the town to the beach, signed by Mr. Horton Johnson, the Chiefs of Acqua Town, and witnessed by myself. They all appeared pleased and satisfied. We took our leave and returned on board. Had a visit from all of them. 11 o'clock, just after she swung to the flood, weighed and proceeded; after passing Cape Cameroons, a strong sea-breeze. Anchored at 4:30 off Bimbia in four fathoms, about three miles from King William's Point. Declined going on shore until next morning at daylight.

Friday, 10th.—2 A.M., lightning, thunder, rain, and a smart breeze, which continued till 8 o'clock; declined visiting Bimbia at present. 9 o'clock, weighed and proceeded, and anchored in Clarence Cove at 2 o'clock. I landed at my island home shortly after.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

Chiefs and Traders in the River Bonny to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

WE, the Undersigned, Chiefs and traders in the River Bonny, beg most respectfully to lay before your notice a series of complaints, connected with aggressions and injustice towards us on the part of William Pepple, late King of this place:

1. There is an ancient custom, that when any person dies the King bestows a donation of cloth, &c. He takes advantage of this afterwards, and seizes upon all the effects of the party deceased, and if the head of a house, takes possession of all.

2. We object to his receiving the whole of the coomey and the compensation money from the Queen of England, as, previous to his being King, a portion of the coomey and other public monies was set aside for the exigencies of the country; instead of which he keeps all, thereby enabling him to send goods to all the markets at such prices as we are totally unfit to compete with, and seriously injuring the whole trade of the country. On several occasions, when representations have been made to him about the high prices his boys have been paying at the fair, the parties complaining have been imprisoned by him and mulcted in heavy fines. He has also frequently expressed his determination to suppress and ruin every house in the country, in order that he might have sole and uncontrolled power.

3. The last and most serious act of his, had we cooperated with him, would have been attended with total ruin to the country, as well as very serious and ruinous loss to the ships in the river. He induced us, by misrepresentations, to equip all our war canoes, to the number of forty-three (and at very large expense), for the purpose of paying a visit of ceremony to the Billa country, the birthplace of his mother, but on approaching New Calabar we suspected his motives were hostile to that country; subsequent events have proved this, and we refused to proceed, seeing too that we had no cause for going to war. On our return to Bonny the whole voice of the country called for his removal, and we accordingly declared him no longer King.

4. As we are anxious that the Court of Equity established here by you should be carried on as heretofore, we beg you to excuse us attending the house built by the white men, as, from its proximity to the King's, we consider our lives not safe while there, but will most willingly attend anywhere else when required, until this matter is satisfactorily arranged. And finally, we beg your assistance in removing him from this place, as we are fully determined that should he remain as King we will one and all leave the country, as we are quite

satisfied that fair and free trade cannot be carried on so long as he remains in power.

We remain, &c.

(Signed)

Annie Pepple	X
Prince Foobra	XX
Manilla	XX
Capt. Hart	XX
Sonjoo Allison	XX
Jack Brown	XX
Foobra	XX
Worrasoo	XX
George Goodhead	XX
Gogo Foobra	XX
King Holliday	XX
Boniface	XX
Tom Brown	XX
Charley Africa	X
for John	
Tom Taylor	X
Jack Telefar	XX
Oge Africa	XX
Dick Telefar	XX
Jack Wilson Pepple	X

} Their marks.

Inclosure 3 in No. 48.

King Pepple to the Captains and Supercargoes in the River Bonny.

Gentlemen,

King's House, Bonny, November 9, 1853.

I AM anxious to pay a visit to the Billa country, and shall feel much obliged if two or more captains or supercargoes will go with me in their boats as far as Calabar river, to invite King Amachree on board of my canoe, as I wish to see him and make him a small present.

This is a perfectly friendly invitation on my part, and if Amachree will not accept of it, I beg that one captain will remain at King Amachree's as a guarantee that he may come back safe. I intend to leave Bonny in four days, and I wish to return in four days from that time to Bonny. The Billa is the native country of my mother.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) KING PEPPLE.

P.S.—I do not know when I shall leave Bonny, but when I do leave I shall return in four days. An answer will oblige as soon as convenient.

K. P.

Inclosure 4 in No. 48.

Proclamation.

I, John Beccroft, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and Charles Henry Young, Captain of Her Britannic Majesty's steamer "Antelope," to our trusty and well-beloved friend Prince Dappo, greeting.

WHEREAS it having been deemed fit and expedient, for the benefit and welfare and safety of the country of Grand Bonny and people under the rule and government of King Pepple, and the better protection of legitimate trade,

that he, King Pepple, be deposed, which has been done by the voice of the Chiefs and people, and that our trusty and well-beloved friend Prince Dappo is proved to be the rightful heir, by being the son of an elder brother. We hereby do nominate and appoint the said Prince Dappo to be his successor, and reign instead of King Pepple, the ceremony being formally performed.

Court House, Grand Bonny, this 23rd day of January, 1854.

In our presence,
 (Signed) JOHN BEECROFT,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.
 CHARLES HENRY YOUNG,
Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope."

Inclosure 5 in No. 48.

Additional Articles to the Bonny Commercial Treaty.

IT having been deemed necessary for the welfare of the country to depose King Pepple and to elect a new King, Prince Dappo was declared King, and the following additions were made to the Commercial Treaty :

ARTICLE I.

That the newly-elected King, from this time henceforward, after paying his present debts, of which due notice must be given, shall not be allowed to trade, directly or indirectly (by giving trust to Bonny men), but that he shall receive two-thirds of the coomey of every ship coming to trade in the river for his support ; the other third to be placed on one side to go to the exigencies of the country ; each party contributing sufficient for the support of Pepple out of their shares, provided he is not possessed of sufficient means of his own. And further, should he, the King, be found trading, he shall be fined in his own portion of the first coomey that becomes due after the offence. And any person giving such information as shall lead to his conviction of having traded shall be entitled to one puncheon reward ; and should he show any resentful feeling, by committing any act of injustice or oppression upon the person giving such information, he shall be fined in a still larger amount at the option of the Court.

ARTICLE II.

That the King or Chiefs shall not be allowed to seize upon, confine, or oppress, or cause to be seized upon, confined, or oppressed, any trader, without first consulting, and with the sanction of, the Court. And further, that no Chief shall be allowed to seize upon the oil, or boys, of any trader so long as the said party owes debts to the ships. Should such an occurrence take place, the party so offending shall be fined for the first offence five puncheons of palm oil, and to be doubled upon a repetition of the offence.

ARTICLE III.

That the King or Chiefs shall not be allowed to go to war with any neighbouring country without informing the supercargoes of their reasons and necessity for so doing. And should it be thought necessary for them to do so, it is distinctly understood that all debts owing to the ships must be first paid, saving and excepting they are attacked by any other country, and obliged to defend themselves.

ARTICLE IV.

That the headmen, officers, and slaves of the deposed King who have been in the habit of trading hitherto, shall still be allowed to trade without hindrance or molestation, and with the same freedom as any other house in the Bonny.

ARTICLE V.

That all future meetings are distinctly understood to be held in the Court-house, built for that purpose ; and after due notice has been given, any supercargo, king, chief, or trader being called upon and refusing to attend, except from illness or some other satisfactory reason, shall be fined in one puncheon of palm oil for every such offence.

ARTICLE VI.

That the King and Chiefs upon any decision of the Court as to fines, or placing any offending party under arrest, must be responsible to the Court that those fines are produced within the time fixed upon ; and it is to be understood that all fines are wholly and solely the property of the Court, until the present debts upon the house are liquidated, after which time one-half will be used at the discretion of the Court, and the other half to the public funds of the country along with the coomeys, &c.

ARTICLE VII.

As a number of buoys are about to be placed in the approaches to Bonny, we shall hold the King and Chiefs of Bonny responsible for any acts of wilful damage they may receive. And as an act of encouragement to the pilots, should the master of any vessel enter or leave the river upon his own responsibility, and without requiring their services, they shall be entitled to one-half pilotage. Should they be required and attend, they shall be entitled to the whole pilotage as formerly ; but if refusing to attend when called upon, they shall lose all claim upon the vessel, and be subject to such other penalties as the Court may decide upon.

ARTICLE VIII.

That in the event of any difficulty arising from unforeseen circumstances, or such as we have not had brought under our notice, before we may be empowered to draw out such fresh clauses as may be deemed necessary, and which being approved of and signed by Her Majesty's Consul, may be considered as the laws of the country.

ARTICLE IX.

That in the event of any disturbance arising in the Eboo or other place, that injures our trade, and over which we have no control, it shall be the King's duty, assisted by his Chiefs, to immediately send up and take such steps as may be considered requisite for its settlement.

ARTICLE X.

That Yaniboo and Ishaca from this time henceforward are to be considered Chiefs of Bonny, and take their parts accordingly.

ARTICLE XI.

That upon the arrival of any ship, the King (not being allowed to trade) requiring certain articles for his own personal use, the supercargo and himself

shall be at liberty to arrange the matter, the King allowing the amount to be deducted from his coomey.

(Signed)	King Dappo's	XX	mark.
	Annie Pepple's	XX	"
	Captain Hart's	XX	"
	Manilla Pepple's	XX	"
	Sonjoo Allison's	XX	"
	Jack Brown's	XX	"
	Foobra's	XX	"
	Worrasoo's	XX	"
	Boniface's	XX	"
	Gogo Foobra's	XX	"
	George Goodhead's	XX	"
	Tom Taylor's	XX	"
	Tom Brown's	XX	"
	Oge Africa's	XX	"
	Charley Africa's	XX	"
	Jack Wilson Pepple's	XX	"
	King Holliday's boy's	XX	mark, he being sick.
	Ishaka's	XX	"
	Jack Telefar's	XX	"
	Dick Telefar's	XX	"

Court House, Grand Bonny, this 23rd day of January, 1854.

(Signed) John Beecroft, *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*
 Charles Henry Young, *Lieutenant, Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*
 J. H. W. Bowman, *Clerk, in charge of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*
 Chas. Caine, *ship "Africa."*
 Thos. F. Stowe, *"Saracen."*
 E. Wylie, *Agent for C. Horsfall & Co.*
 Thomas Gregory, *Chairman, "Princess Royal."*
 F. Grant, *"Hero."*
 J. A. Ward, *"St. Andrew."*
 R. E. Birkett, *St. Lawrence."*
 Thos. Starker, *"Lady of the Lake."*
 R. Richards, *Surgeon, barque "St. Lawrence."*

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE XII.

Any King, Chief, trader, or boy, coming armed to the Court-house, or attended by armed followers, or keeping armed followers in the neighbourhood of the Court, during any meeting, shall be heavily fined in fifty puncheons of palm oil, in equal proportions from the King and Chiefs, and will also seriously incur the displeasure of Her Majesty's Representatives.

Inclosure 6 in No. 48.

The Masters and Supercargoes in the New Calabar River to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

New Calabar River, January 24, 1854.

WE, the Undersigned, respectfully solicit your interference for the settlement of a long-standing dispute of most serious detriment to the general interests of trade between the Long Brass, generally known as the Eganny, and the New Calabar Chiefs, or rather the two factions of the New Calabar Town, one side being willing and anxious for an amicable adjustment, whilst the other has as stubbornly opposed it unless upon their own terms.

We are, &c.

(Signed) THOS. F. STONE.
 E. GOLDSTONE.
 E. W. THOMPSON.
 THOMAS GREGORY.
 R. E. BIRKETT.

Inclosure 7 in No. 48.

Paper signed by the King and Chiefs of New Calabar.

WE the Undersigned, King and Chiefs of New Calabar, do faithfully promise Her Majesty's Consul, John Beecroft, Esquire, that we will settle the dispute between the Eganny country and ourselves, and cause the trade to be opened as formerly, within the space of one month from this date, or forfeit five puncheons of good palm oil.

Dated in New Calabar river, on board Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope," this twenty-fifth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

(Signed)

King Amacree	X		Warmate	X	
Prince Will	XX		Quaker	XX	
Will Barboy	XX		Standfast Jack	XX	
Harry Braid	XX		Yellow Duke	XX	
George Amacree	XX		Big Fogolo	XX	
Battabo	XX		Jungo	XX	
West India	XX		Jack Rich	XX	
Manuel	XX	} Their marks.	Tom Lawson	XX	} Their marks.
Big Harry	XX		Don Pedro	XX	
Young Harry	XX		Dick Barboy	XX	
George Will	XX		Young Annie	XX	
George Goodhead	XX		Duke Mornae	XX	
Foobra Amacree	XX		Tiger Amacree	XX	
Young Braid	XX				

Witnesses to signatures :

(Signed) John Beecroft, *Her Majesty's Consul.*
 C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope."*
 Thomas Gregory. "
 R. E. Birkett.
 F. Grant.
 E. Goldstone.
 Thos. F. Stone.
 J. Warde.
 E. W. Thompson.
 J. A. Christie.
 Chas. Caine.
 Charles Perry.

Inclosure 8 in No 48.

Declaration.

I, THE lawful successor of the late King Archibong I, of Calabar, do hereby agree to all the Articles and conditions contained in a Treaty made on the 6th day of December, 1841, by William Simpson Blount, Esquire, Lieutenant commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Pluto," on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and King Eyamba.

In testimony thereof, I have this day signed the present document, to be appended to that Treaty, in the presence of John Beecroft, Esquire, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra, and the witnesses whose names are hereunto subscribed.

Done at Duke Town, Old Calabar, this 2nd day of February, 1854.

(Signed) KING DUKE EPHRAIM.

Witnesses :

(Signed) J. H. W. BOWMAN, *Clerk in Charge of Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope."*
 EDWD. H. POWELL.

Inclosure 9 in No. 48.

Declaration.

I, KING PEPPLÉ, of the River Bonny, do hereby declare that the proclamation named in the 1st Article of a Treaty between myself and Captain Thomas Rodney Eden, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, has been duly issued, and the laws therein mentioned strictly and fully enforced.

Given at the King's House, River Bonny, this 23rd day of January, 1854.
(Signed) KING PEPPLÉ.

Witnesses:

(Signed) THOMAS GREGORY.
F. GRANT.
R. E. BIRKETT.
CHAS. CAINE.
J. A. WARDE.
THOS. F. STONE.
E. WYLIE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 48.

Certificate.

WE, the Undersigned, do certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief, no Slave Trade has existed in the River Bonny, or been carried on in any way, from or through the territory of King Pepple, since the date of the Agreement concluded with him by Captain Thomas Rodney Eden, of the "Amphitrite," in November 1848.

(Signed) THOMAS GREGORY.
J. A. WARDE.
CHAS. CAINE.
F. GRANT.
E. WYLIE.
THOS. F. STONE.
R. E. BIRKETT.

Inclosure 11 in No. 48.

List of Presents.

A LIST of goods composing the third annual gift of presents from Her Majesty the Queen of England to King Pepple, of the River Bonny, delivered by Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra, on the 23rd January, 1854, according to the stipulation of the Treaty of the 21st November, 1848.

355 guns, in 18 cases.
100 half-barrels powder.
10,000 musket-flints, in 10 kegs.

(Signed) KING PEPPLÉ.

Inclosure 12 in No. 48.

List of Presents.

A LIST of goods composing the fifth and last annual gift of presents from Her Majesty the Queen of England to King Eyo and Duke Ephraim, of the River Old Calabar, delivered by Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra,

on the 2nd February, 1854, according to the stipulation of the Treaty of the 6th December, 1841, and its Additional Articles of the 30th November, 1842.

80 cases containing brass rods, 3 ft. = 8,000 lbs. = 5,600.
100 half-barrels powder.
1 hide, tanned.

Equal part to each.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY.
KING DUKE EPHRAIM.

Inclosure 13 in No. 48.

Declaration.

I, KING EYO, of Creek Town, of the River Old Calabar, do hereby declare that the proclamation named in the 1st Article of a Treaty between myself and Lieutenant W. S. Blount, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, has been duly issued, and the laws therein mentioned strictly and fully enforced.

Given at the King's House, Creek Town, Old Calabar, this 2nd day of February, 1854.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY.

Witnesses :

(Signed) JOHN STEANE MORGAN, "*Lady Head.*"
EDWD. H. POWELL.

Inclosure 14 in No. 48.

Declaration.

I, DUKE EPHRAIM, of the River Old Calabar, do hereby declare that the proclamation named in the 1st Article of a Treaty between my predecessor, King Eyamba, and Lieutenant W. S. Blount, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, has been duly issued, and the laws therein mentioned strictly and fully enforced.

Given at the Duke's House, River Old Calabar, this 2nd day of February, 1854.

(Signed) KING DUKE EPHRAIM.

Witnesses :

(Signed) JOHN STEANE MORGAN, "*Lady Head.*"
EDWD. H. POWELL.

Inclosure 15 in No. 48.

Certificate.

WE, the Undersigned, do certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief, no Slave Trade has existed in the River Old Calabar, or been carried on in any way from or through the territory of King Eyo, of Creek Town, since the date of the Agreement concluded with him by Lieutenant W. S. Blount, of the "*Pluto*," in December 1841.

(Signed) JOHN STEANE MORGAN,
"Lady Head."
JOSEPH CUTHBERTSON,
"Elizabeth Bibby."

Old Calabar, February 2, 1854.

Inclosure 16 in No. 48.

Certificate.

WE, the Undersigned, do certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief, no Slave Trade has existed in the River of Old Calabar, or been carried on in any way from or through the territory of Duke Ephraim, since the date of the Agreement concluded with his predecessor, King Eyamba, by Lieutenant W. S. Blount, of the "Pluto," in December 1841.

(Signed)

JOHN STEANE MORGAN,

"Lady Head."

JOSEPH CUTHBERTSON,

*"Elizabeth Bibby."**Old Calabar, February 2, 1854.*

No. 49.

Consul Beecroft to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 25, 1854.

I BEG leave to remind your Lordship, that although in accordance with the stipulation granting to King Pepple, of Bonny, a yearly subsidy, in consideration of his signing the Treaty for the Suppression of the Foreign Slave Trade should have terminated last year, that there are still two years' presents remaining due to him.

And, if your Lordship should think fit so to direct, there will be one year's presents* due to Ammacree of New Calabar, in addition to the presents I have now withheld, pending your Lordship's instructions.

I have &c.

(Signed)

JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 50.

Consul Beecroft to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith an Additional Article to the Slave Trade Treaty with Bonny, of the 21st November, 1848, signed by King Pepple's successor.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Agreement.

I, THE lawful successor of the late deposed King Pepple of Grand Bonny, do hereby agree to all the articles and conditions contained in a Treaty, made on the 21st day of November, 1848, by Thomas Rodney Eden, Esquire, Captain of Her Majesty's ship "Amphitrite," on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and King Pepple. In testimony thereof, I have this day signed the

* That is to say, ~~the second present~~, due in August 1853, three annual presents having been promised by the Treaty of August 1851.

present document to be appended to that Treaty, in the presence of John Beecroft, Esquire, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra, and the witnesses whose names are hereunto subscribed.

Done at the Court House, Grand Bonny, this 28th day of January, 1854.

(Signed)

KING ^{his} DAPPO.
mark.
JOHN BEECROFT.

Witnesses :

(Signed) THOMAS GREGORY.
CHARLES CAINE.
R. E. BIRKETT.
H. STEWART.
E. WYLIE.

No. 51.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of February last, inclosing a journal of your proceedings from the 18th of January to the 10th of February, whilst visiting various rivers in the Bight of Biafra, and reporting the circumstances under which you had thought it necessary to withhold the first of the three annual presents promised to King Ammacree of New Calabar, by the Treaty of August 8, 1851.

I have read your journal with much interest, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings as reported therein.

I have also to express my approval of your having, in consequence of King Ammacree's violation of the Treaty of 1851, in the matter of the slave-vessel "*Restaurada*," withheld the present due to that Chief.

You will retain in your possession the articles composing that present, until you shall be satisfied that Ammacree is fairly entitled to receive it, and when that time comes, you will report to me what articles should be sent for his second and third presents.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 52.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th of February last, stating that the fourth and fifth annual presents due to Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny, have not yet been sent out to you for delivery to that Chief; and I have in reply to desire that you will inform me of what articles the presents in question should consist, in order that they may be prepared and forwarded to you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 53.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of depositions made before me, relative to a slaver which ran into the River Bonny, with copies of the documents mentioned therein.

Captain R. E. Birkett, who makes the first deposition, is at present

master of the ship "Belle," of Liverpool, belonging to Messrs. Hatton and Cookson, Mersey-street, Liverpool, and is now on his passage to that place.

Captain Hemingway mentioned in that deposition, is supercargo of the ship "Roderick Dhu," and trading for the firm of Messrs. Stuart and Douglas, Liverpool. He has had the schooner repaired, put cargo in her, and sent her away; her destination is supposed to be the River Brass or River Benin. She is under the command of the sailing-master, or mate (Mr. McTaggart), of the "Roderick Dhu," and the surgeon of the same vessel is supposed to be supercargo.

It appears, my Lord, to be a case requiring a very strict investigation, Captain Hemingway having apparently acted in defiance of all law and justice; it also tends very much to decrease the estimation in which the white men are held by the natives, when any one thus openly takes away property in charge of a second party, and that property for the British Government, and under the charge of a British subject.

The original depositions, documents, flag, and keys, have been delivered up to Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Pluto," in this place, who will forward them to Commander Miller, senior officer in the Bight of Benin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 53.

Depositions of Captain Birkett and others.

[See Class A, Inclosure 3 in No. 119.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 53.

Paper authorizing Captain Birkett to take possession of the "Mercedita."

CONSTA por esta como yo B. Gonsales, amo de la goleta Espanola "Mercedita" entrando en esta puerto en necesidad sin anclas y bleno de aqua pues saliendo de la barra enbarrancamos y soldamente per salvar la vida hubimos tiempo de entrar al puerto y atracarla atierra y como no teniamos bote pues la gente abia abandona el buque y se abian ydo a la playa me fue preciso acer entrege al primer y solo Capitan Baguet como si fuera un barco de guerra o Consul Ynges y al mismo tiempo pedirle el ausilio para que me llevase a su bordo pues no tenia seguridad de ninguna clase.

(Signed) BENTURA GONSALES, *Capitan*.
JOSSE CARERA.

Rio de Benis, 26 de Junio, 1854.

Witness to the signature of Captain Bentura Gonsales:

(Signed) R. RICHARDS, *Surgeon to the ship "Belle."*

Inclosure 3 in No. 53.

Declaration of Supercargo and Captain of the "Mercedita," and Inventory of Goods.

[See Class A, Inclosure 2 in No. 119.]

No. 54.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of June last, approving of the late Consul Beecroft's proceedings in the rivers, as reported in his despatch of the 20th of February last.

The presents for Ammacree, of New Calabar, will be detained here for further instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

No. 55.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th June last, relative to the presents due to Pepple, ex-King of Bonny; and to state, in reply to your Lordship's desire, that Pepple wishes guns and powder, in equal proportions, for the presents now due.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

No. 56.

Acting-Consul Lynslayer to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

IN the late Consul Beecroft's despatch to your Lordship, dated February 20, 1854, relating his proceedings in the adjacent rivers, your Lordship will observe that he gave King Pepple, who had been deposed in the River Bonny, a passage to this place at his own request.

I beg to inclose herewith a despatch from the Court of Equity established in the River Bonny, and a letter, written at the request of the King and Chiefs, addressed to the late Consul, in answer to inquiries he had made if the King and Chiefs were averse to Pepple's return to the Billa country, the birthplace of his mother.

His (King Pepple's) solicitations to me to be allowed to return to the River Bonny are incessant, and, not being complied with, he has imbibed the idea that he is a prisoner here, and my endeavours to appease him are fruitless.

I am led to believe that his means for the sustenance of himself and servants are small, and he has not received any part of the promised allowance for his maintenance in this place.

Under these circumstances, my Lord, I most respectfully request that your Lordship will inform me what steps I should take, either in detaining him here, or allowing him to go wheresoever he chooses.

Should your Lordship consider it necessary, for the safety of the trade and British property in the River Bonny, that he should not be allowed to return to the River Bonny, or any part of the continent of Africa, I would beg leave to suggest to your Lordship that he be removed from this Colony, as the means of communication to that river are very frequent, and he might use these means in such a manner as to cause a civil rebellion among the Bonny people, through some of his friends in that place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

The Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, Bonny, to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Court House, Bonny River, April 20, 1854.

IN answer to your communication per mail and "Celma" respecting Pepple's going to Billa, we have held two meetings of King and Chiefs, at both of which they expressed their decided objection to his going, or even returning here.

They said the country was peaceable; that they were making amicable arrangements with fresh trading-places in the interior, and everything going on well; that his return to either place would upset all, and that, instead of the whole of the canoes and boys going to the fair, as now, every trader would keep back one-half to protect himself and the town. They are very much against it.

With respect to the expenses, we beg to remind you of your promise to let us and the King and Chiefs know what Pepple took away with him. They desire this very much, as it is their opinion he has plenty of means (if not with him), and they say that their agreement to support him was entirely contingent on his not being able to do it himself; should this be the case, they will willingly pay sooner than have him back.

The Calabar men also strongly object to his going to Billa. They wish to be on friendly terms with Bonny.

(Signed)

F. GRANT, *Chairman.*

J. A. WARDE.

R. E. BIRKETT.

E. WYLIE.

THOMAS GREGORY.

THOS. F. STONE.

CHAS. CAINE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

Captain Warde to Consul Beecroft.

Dear Sir,

Bonny, April 21, 1854.

I HAVE been requested by the King and Chiefs to address you, apart from the official communication you will receive from us in reply to your question as to whether the ex-King Pepple may return to Billa, or elsewhere on the continent of Africa.

They say his sole object in wishing to come back is for the purpose of intrigue, to create disturbance and mischief with the neighbouring States, and to interrupt the trade of the river; and should such an occurrence take place, they would be necessitated to keep half their canoes and men from the fairs, for defence, and the traffic of the river would suffer much in consequence. They therefore implore you not on any account to permit him to land on any part of the continent.

They wish me also to inform you that negotiations are going on between themselves and New Calabar, for the purpose of establishing permanent peace between them; and should Pepple return, all such arrangements would cease. I may also add that the King and Chiefs of New Calabar express extreme aversion to his return.

You will doubtless remember, when King Pepple was deposed, it was stated that it would meet with the decided opposition of the natives of Eboe; as a proof that such is not the case, the King of the principal State in the interior (Ahombala) is at present in Bonny, seeking friendly relations with the King and Chiefs.

I remain, &c..

(Signed)

J. A. WARDE.

We, the Undersigned, King and Chiefs of Bonny, hereby certify that the

inclosed letter was written to you by Captain John A. Warde, at our request, and that it expresses our wishes to you in detail.

(Signed)	KING DAPPO	X	} Their marks.
	ANNE PEPPLE	X	
	CAPT. HART	X	
	SUNJEW ALLISON	X	
	BLACK FOOBRA	X	
	WARRISOO	X	

No. 57.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting-Consul Lysslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your two despatches of the 7th of August,* requesting instructions as to what steps should be taken with regard to Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny river, who accompanied Mr. Beecroft to Fernando Po in January last; and stating that Pepple wishes to receive guns and powder in equal quantities, in discharge of the fourth and fifth annual presents remaining due to him from Her Majesty's Government under the Treaty of the 21st of November, 1848.

I have to state to you in reply, that it is, of course, desirable that Pepple should, if possible, be prevented from returning to the River Bonny, or going to any place from whence he might find means of disturbing the peace of his former territory. And I have to suggest, with this view, that you should assign to the ex-King some place of residence sufficiently remote from the Bonny, and that you should require him to engage to remain there under pain of incurring the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government if he should fail to do so. You will also inform the ex-King that if he undertakes to accept this engagement, and if he faithfully observes it, Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po will be authorised to pay to him, by instalments, in money, the sum of 4,000 dollars, which is the amount of the two annual presents remaining due to him. You will at the same time state to him that Her Majesty's Government consider that muskets and gunpowder will not be suitable articles to be given to him in his present position.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 58.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23rd of October last, respecting the two annual presents remaining due to Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny river, I have to acquaint you that the Lords of the Treasury have concurred in my proposal that these presents should be paid in money, and not in muskets or gunpowder; and I have to inform you that you will be at liberty to pay to Pepple, by instalments, the 4,000 dollars due to him, and to reimburse yourself by drawing bills accordingly, at thirty days' sight, upon the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 59.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, November 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd October, relative to the ex-King Pepple.

In reply thereto, I beg to inform your Lordship that I will be able to give a final reply to that despatch per next mail, as I have not received any answer from ex-King Pepple to your Lordship's proposal.

I have further to inform your Lordship that Commodore Adams is expected here daily, when I will request that a small steamer may be placed at my service, for the purpose of visiting the rivers.

I again beg to assure your Lordship that every exertion will be used here for the continuance of the duties of Her Majesty's Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, December 30, 1854.

I BEG to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch addressed by me to Commodore Adams, Commander-in-chief, &c., relative to ex-King Pepple.

Having consulted with Commodore Adams as to the best place to which he could be removed, we both considered that the Island of Ascension was a most suitable place for his residence, being a British Colony, and from which he could have no communication with the River Bonny, his former territory.

On the 5th instant I informed the ex-King of this decision, in a despatch a copy of which I beg to inclose.

Commodore Adams had given Commander Clavering, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Pluto," instructions to receive the ex-King and suite on board for passage to Ascension.

Early on the morning of the 7th, the ex-King's wife reported that Pepple had disappeared during the night; that his hat and stick were found on the road leading to Goderich Bay, and that she was of opinion he had committed suicide by drowning himself. I immediately got a number of Kroomen, and searched the bush and the bay, but could get no tidings of him; his wife and female servants were apparently in great grief, crying and howling much for his loss. Two boats had gone out of this harbour during the night; and supposing that he might have taken passage in one of them, I wrote to Commander Clavering that I considered it would be advisable to proceed in search of the boats. Steam was got up, and I proceeded with them; we soon found the boats, but Pepple was not there.

As I felt confident that the ex-King had not committed the crime of self-destruction, I summoned his male servants, and by threatening them with imprisonment, &c., they said if I gave them some men they would show where he was. Constables and Kroomen were provided, and the boys led the way into the bush for about two and a-half miles, where the ex-King was found sitting under the shade of two trees, surrounded with thick brushwood. I have sent my palanquin to carry him in, as he is now unable to walk far. On his being brought to me, I allowed him one hour to change his clothing, and then to embark on board the "Pluto," and he went on board before sunset.

On inquiry, I found that he had been misinformed about Ascension, viz., that he would have to purchase water at a high rate, and that provisions were equally high. On my explaining to him that, during the passage, and on his arrival there, every attention would be paid to him, and that he would have one of Commodore Adams' houses to reside in, he was perfectly satisfied, and quite willing to accede to my wishes.

He earnestly requested that I would give him a document stating how he

was to receive his 4,000 dollars. I furnished him with one, a copy of which I beg to inclose.

I also beg leave to inclose copies of two letters I received from him on the 8th instant, previous to sailing.

He was very anxious for his wife Allapoota, and servants, to accompany him; his wife was afraid to go, for fear she could not return here again if she wished. I gave her and the servants a document, requesting the commanders of Her Majesty's ships to give her a passage here if she wished it.

I also beg leave to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch I have addressed to the chairman and members of the Court of Equity, Bonny, relative to the ex-King's annual allowance of 300*l.* sterling.

I hope, my Lord, that my proceedings in this case will meet your approval, it being very necessary that the ex-King Pepple should be removed some distance from his former territory; and I do not hesitate in saying that if he is kept at Ascension, a flourishing trade will take place in the River Bonny.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

Fernando Po, December 4, 1854.

I BEG to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch addressed by me to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, relative to ex-King Pepple, at present residing here, with a copy of a despatch from the Foreign Office, in answer thereto.

On a recent occasion a boy of Pepple's went to Bonny, and was the means of creating a disturbance which stopped the trade for ninety-six days, to the severe loss of the shipping.

The proximity of this place to the River Bonny, renders the ex-King's residence here very undesirable, and I propose that he be removed to Ascension, as a more secure place, and from which he can hold no communication with Bonny.

I shall be glad to have your opinion, if my proposal meets your approval.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to Ex-King Pepple.

Sir,

Fernando Po, December 5, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you that I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in which it is stated that it is desirable to prevent your returning to the River Bonny, and that I am to appoint you a place of residence.

As a British Colony is much more desirable for your residence than this, a Spanish Colony, I have consulted with Commodore Adams, Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces on this coast, and have come to the conclusion that the Island of Ascension is much more suitable for your residence, from its healthy qualities and distance from your former territory, than any place on this coast.

I have therefore to request that yourself, wife, and servants, with your property, be prepared to embark from this place, in Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Pluto," for the above-named island, on Thursday the 7th instant at noon.

On your arrival there, Commodore Adams has very kindly promised to let you have his house for a residence.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to Ex-King Pepple.

Sir,

Fernando Po, December 8, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you that the sum of 4,000 dollars, two years' annual presents, now due you by Her Majesty's Government, under Treaty of the 21st November, 1848, will be paid to you by instalments, should you conduct yourself to the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government during your residence in Ascension.

I have also to inform you that your annual allowance of 300*l.* sterling, by the King and Chiefs of the River Bonny, shall be duly handed over to you, and for which I shall make due application, by the first vessel leaving here for that place.

As the goods sent from Bonny for the above amount will not be suitable for sale at Ascension, you will please to inform me whom you commission to dispose of them on their arrival here.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNSLAGER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 60.

Ex-King Pepple to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

"Pluto," Clarence, Fernando Po, December 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I am now going to Ascension by your order as a British Consul; and if it happen that I died at Ascension or anywhere else, my body must be secured in a rum cask and taking to Bonny, and be buried near my father grave by the Government; and if I am spared to return all is right; but I beg that you not lost this memorandum: it must be shown to any that are concern in the matter; but I trust it your care, for I have offended against the Queen or either British subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PEPPLE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 60.

Ex-King Pepple to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

"Pluto," Fernando Po, December 8, 1854.

I HAVE to request you will be pleased to let me know what space of time the sum of 4,000 dollars is to be paid me in, as it has been due now some time.

With respect to the annual payment of 300*l.*, it is my request [that Mr. J. W. B. Lynslager, Acting British Consul at Fernando Po, will enforce the same; also if J. W. B. Lynslager will be kind enough to dispose of the goods sent from Bonny to the best advantage.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PEPPLE, his ~~X~~ mark.

I also wish you to send for my son, Prince George Pepple, from Bonny, and then forward him to Ascension, as it is my intention to educate him.

I wish to have some arrangements also respecting my provisions, as I cannot live upon salt meat, it not agreeing with my complaint.

Inclosure 6 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, Bonny.

Gentlemen,

Fernando Po, December 12, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you, that having received instructions from Her Majesty's Government that it was desirable to prevent ex-King Pepple's return to the River Bonny, and that I was to appoint him a place of residence, I consulted with Commodore Adams, Commander-in-chief, &c. &c., and came to the conclusion that the Island of Ascension was the most suitable place for his residence, and he, with his wife and servants, accordingly embarked in Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Pluto," which left here on the 8th instant for that place.

I have therefore to request that you will in future transmit to me the goods for the annual amount of the allowance to the ex-King Pepple, as I am authorized by him to receive them, and forward the amount to Ascension.

I hope that, as Pepple is now removed to a place where he can have no communication with the Bonny, his allowance will be punctually paid to me, so that I may transmit him the money.

Previous to Pepple's leaving here, he desired that I would send his son, Prince George Pepple, to Ascension, as he wished to educate him. I will thank you to inform the boy of this, and if he is willing to go, to send him over here, when I will obtain a passage for him in one of Her Majesty's ships.

I intend visiting you next month, in one of Her Majesty's steam-vessels.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

No. 61.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of December last, reporting the measures taken by you for the removal of ex-King Pepple from Fernando Po, and his departure for the Island of Ascension, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings as stated in that despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 62.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th December, 1854, relative to the payment of the 4,000 dollars due to the ex-King Pepple.

I beg leave to state that I will await an answer from your Lordship to my despatch of the 30th December, relating my proceedings in that instance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Sherbro River.*

No. 63.

Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received October 6.*)*Government House, Freetown, Sierra Leone,
September 2, 1854.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 11th of March last,* which, however, for some reason unknown to me, did not reach me until the 24th of August last.

In reply to your Lordship's just observations, I do myself the honour to state that at the time that I solicited and was happy in obtaining your Lordship's sanction for my employment of my boatmen, I had not contemplated any such employment, either of them or of myself, as the inspection of canoes suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade. The object which I had, and in which your Lordship concurred, I have steadily pursued, in personally visiting the various parts of my Consular district: but when I found that the Slave Trade was being revived in that district, and found, from frequent communication which it was my privilege to hold with the Governor of Sierra Leone, that his Excellency's views were entirely coincident with my own; knowing also that the Treaty of 1849 with the Chiefs of Sherbro, to which, as your Lordship is aware, the sanction of Her Majesty the Queen has been given, clothed his Excellency the Governor with power to provide for the detention and seizure of canoes prosecuting the Slave Trade; when, too, I ascertained that the regulations obtaining in the squadron did not permit of any of the ships or their boats being employed in the Sherbro Lagoon or its tributaries, at the very time that the native slave-dealers were most actively prosecuting their business; I candidly confess to your Lordship that I felt, under these circumstances, that, in view of the Treaty, and under the exigencies of the case, I should have been derelict to the responsibilities of my position, and faithless to the claims of humanity, if I were to be deterred by any mere apprehension of personal danger from using every means in my power, even to the seizure of canoes having slaves in, to enforce the observance of the Treaty.

Had I, however, my Lord, felt that the whole body of the native Chiefs did not quite expect that I would exercise such a function; or could I, from what I knew, suspect that they or any of them would question my right to do so, and that it was consequently likely to involve me in disputes with the Sherbro Chiefs, and so embarrass Her Majesty's Government; I trust your Lordship will believe that I should not have ventured so to take the course which, until I received your Lordship's despatch, I felt it my duty to follow, aiming to justify the humane purposes of Her Majesty's Government in entering into the Treaty under which I am residing in the Sherbro.

I have above advised your Lordship of my having had the privilege to be in frequent communication with his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone upon the subject of the revival of the Slave Trade in the Sherbro. I do myself the honour to report to your Lordship that, acting under the authority of a Deputation of Vice-Admiralty from his Excellency, I captured on the night of the 12th of August last, two native canoes containing 89 slaves; and that,

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 75.

with his Excellency's concurrence, as no assistance was afforded by the Commodore for their transport hither, I left the *Sherbro* with the slaves on the 28th ultimo, and arrived here in safety, after a boisterous passage, on the 31st ultimo.

While I humbly hope for the expression of your Lordship's satisfaction that it has thus been my privilege to convey liberty to so many captives, I beg to assure your Lordship that I will in future faithfully obey your Lordship's direction, that it is no part of my duty personally to capture canoes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

No. 64.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hanson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, reporting that you had on the 12th August, under authority from the Governor of Sierra Leone, captured in the *Sherbro* river two canoes with 89 slaves on board. And I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having made this capture under the instructions of the Governor of Sierra Leone.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 65.

Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Victoria, Sherbro Island, December 31, 1854.

IN reporting to your Lordship upon the condition of the Slave Trade in the *Sherbro*, I do myself the honour to refer to the opinion I ventured to express in my despatch of the 31st December, 1853,* viz., "that the transport of slaves by canoe through these waters from the Gallinas to the neighbourhood of the Colony of Sierra Leone is still continued."

During the year just closing, some sixty canoes capable of carrying, on the average, at least, 40 slaves each, are known to have come into the Boom, the Jong, and the Kittam rivers for slaves. Of the whole number, probably some twenty have left with their human cargoes; and with the exception, I believe, of four—the two I captured, and two taken, as I am informed, by officers of the Colony of Sierra Leone, acting under Commission of the Governor—the whole number have escaped; and thus, in the very centre of the British influence on this coast, and as if in mockery of the efforts of Her Majesty's Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade, some 600 or 700 of slaves have, so far, been taken from this region during the year. Most of the remaining canoes have their cargoes purchased, and will, no doubt, be passing with them very shortly.

Until recently a panic seems to have prevented any attempt to return with their cargoes; as I am informed that, after the capture of the two canoes by me, the feeling became very general that their chances of escaping capture were very straitened, the more especially so as they well knew that those canoes were fully armed and manned by a crew who expressed their determination to fight their way through. It appears, however, that they are now fully aware that no more attempts at seizure will be made here; and as they are confident of succeeding in the open sea in eluding the vigilance of Her Majesty's ships, numbers are, I hear, preparing to leave. The probability, therefore, is, my Lord, that about 2,400 slaves have been purchased in the last twelve months to be passed through this Lagoon from its tributaries, to the Mellacorree, the Pongas, and other rivers to the northward.

I have taken care, acting on your Lordship's instructions, to communicate

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 74.

what I have learned of the movements of the remaining canoes in a letter I have addressed "to the Commander of any of Her Majesty's ships, or to the Senior Naval Officer at Sierra Leone." I cannot refrain, my Lord, from expressing the hope that some efficient steps will be taken to put an end to this canoe-transport Slave Trade, as unless, or until, that is done, the Sherbro can never cease to be a source and the scene of trouble ; for I need not apprise your Lordship that the presence of the slave-dealer is sure to originate slave hunts, and to foment internecine strifes, and that so long as those civil wars and those slave hunts are even liable of occurrence, so certainly will this productive region be devastated ; and so surely also will the lives and properties of Her Majesty's subjects here be liable to spoliation, and the prestige and power of Her Majesty's Government be laid open to the contempt of insolent and worthless marauders.

It grieves me to have to report to your Lordship, and I believe your Lordship will be pained to learn, that during the year I have had to send two Slave Trade cases, one of direct slave-dealing, and one of pawn-taking on the part of liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, to his Excellency Governor Kennedy. A third case, which I reported to the Governor, was equally conclusive of the guilt of the accused ; but the pawn (who was himself my informant) was tampered with in Freetown, and the case was not proceeded with. Information was also obtained by me of two other alleged cases of pawn-taking which I also duly communicated to the Governor.

I trust, however, my Lord, that it will not be concluded from these facts, that, after all, the enemies of negro emancipation are in the right ; and that the philanthropy of England is wasted upon unworthy objects ; for "the slaves of to-day would, should opportunity present, be all the slave-holders of to-morrow."

I am not aware, my Lord, that, during the year, any foreign slave-dealers have visited the Sherbro. Last June, however, Don Pablo Crispo, who has been twice expelled the Gallinas and the Kittam, was said, and I have reason to believe, truly, to have been on the coast near Cape Mount and Manor Rock ; and one Don Lewis, or Louis, who formerly resided in this Lagoon, was reported to have visited the coast near the Rio Pongas ; but whether they, or either of them, purchased or conveyed away any slaves, I did not learn ; I think they did not.

No. 66.

Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

My Lord,

Victoria, Sherbro Island, December 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt on the 4th instant of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd October, conveying to me the expression of your Lordship's approval of my having made the capture of the two canoes containing 89 slaves, of which I informed your Lordship on the 2nd of September last.

I do myself the honour to assure your Lordship that the expression of your Lordship's approval is a source of deep gratefulness to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

AUSTRIA.

No. 67.

*Count Colloredo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 17.)**Chandos House, le 16 Octobre, 1854.*

LE Capitaine Autrichien, Andrea Tripeovich, commandant le bâtiment marchand Autrichien "*Raj*," arrivé dernièrement à Londres, s'étant présenté auprès du Consulat-Général d'Autriche, y déposa les faits suivants que le Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de son Excellence M. le Comte de Clarendon, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat au Département des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande.

Le 31 Janvier, 1854, le dit bâtiment était mouillé à Porto Novo, dans le Golfe de Guinea, sur la côte d'Afrique.

Le même jour au soir y arriva un brig de la marine de guerre Anglaise "*Arab*," commandé par le Capitaine Ogle, lequel envoya son Premier Lieutenant à bord du bâtiment Autrichien, pour procéder à sa visite. Sur la déclaration du capitaine qu'ils étaient des Autrichiens arrivés à Porto Novo pour y débarquer du "rum" et du tabac de leur cargaison, l'officier Anglais répliqua que cela ne pouvait être, qu'ils étaient des Espagnols arrivés pour faire de la contrebande avec des esclaves; il demanda à voir le pavillon, ainsi que les papiers de bord, qu'il emporta avec lui pour les présenter à son commandant.

Le lendemain la visite fut effectuée, à quelle occasion nombre d'utensiles furent cassés et endommagés, les vivres tirés hors des magasins et jetés sur le pont pendant qu'il pleuvait de manière que toutes les provisions furent gâtées. Cette visite terminée, le Capitaine Autrichien se rendit auprès du commandant du brig Anglais et protesta vivement contre le soupçon d'avoir eu en vue le Trafic des Nègres, ajoutant qu'un bâtiment portant le pavillon Autrichien ne s'y était jamais livré et qu'il était venu ici pour faire un commerce permis. Le commandant Anglais, non obstant ces assurances, déclara le bâtiment en question comme bonne prise et le fit escorter par son brig jusqu'à Lagos, où se trouvait l'Amiral Bruce.

A son arrivée à Lagos le bâtiment Autrichien fut soumis à une seconde visite, non moins ruineuse pour ses effets et sa cargaison que ne l'avait été la première, sans qu'elle ait réussi à justifier d'aucune manière les soupçons élevés contre ce bâtiment. Cependant le lendemain, après que l'Amiral eut examiné les papiers du bord, le bâtiment Autrichien fut déclaré libre et le Consul Anglais à Lagos délivra un certificat pour empêcher que d'autres bâtiments de guerre l'arrêtent dans sa course.

Après une longue navigation le bâtiment en question retourna à Porto Novo pour y décharger sa cargaison.

Les pertes essayées par ce retard, qui lui fit manquer l'occasion d'un contrat très favorable, la circonstance qu'il dût renouveler toutes ses provisions, qu'on n'achète que très cher sur cette côte de l'Afrique, et les dommages que son bâtiment avait soufferts, ont été évalués par le capitaine à 1,000*l.* sterling.

En priant son Excellence de bien vouloir faire prendre les renseignements et informations nécessaires pour constater ces faits, le Soussigné se livre à l'espoir que, dans le cas où les réclamations du capitaine du bâtiment Autrichien en

question soient trouvées fondées en droit, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne refusera pas la réparation demandée en accordant le dédommagement des pertes susmentionnées.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

COLLOREDO.

No. 68.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Colloredo.

Foreign Office, October 20, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Count Colloredo, &c., addressed to him on the 16th instant, complaining of the conduct of Captain Ogle, of Her Majesty's ship "Arab," in having visited and detained the Austrian vessel "*Raj*," on a charge of Slave Trade at Porto Novo on the 31st January last, and claiming 1,000*l.* as compensation to the owners for the detention of that vessel.

The Undersigned begs to inform Count Colloredo in reply, that he will refer this matter to the proper department of Her Majesty's Government, in order that the motives which led to the detention of the "*Raj*" may be investigated, and on learning the result of such investigation, the Undersigned will have the honour of communicating further with Count Colloredo on the subject.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 69.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Earl of Westmorland.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of three despatches which I have received from His Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte, and of one which I have addressed to his Excellency, respecting the exportation of slaves from Circassia and Georgia.*

Your Lordship will communicate the contents of these despatches to Count Buol, and you will state to his Excellency that I feel sure that the Austrian Government will sincerely participate in the gratification which Her Majesty's Government have felt in learning that Viscount Stratford has succeeded in obtaining from the Porte the issue of the two firmans (translations of which accompany his Excellency's despatch of the 9th instant),† prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves in Circassia and Georgia.

Your Lordship will at the same time call the attention of Count Buol to the statements contained in Lord Stratford's instruction to M. Pisani of the 29th of August, and in his Excellency's despatch to me of the 19th September,‡ by which it appears that the vessels belonging to the Austrian Lloyd Company are allowed to convey slaves, and that Lord Stratford has received authentic information that Georgian children have been brought as slaves to Constantinople in an Austrian steamer, and have been conveyed from thence to a person high in the Turkish employment.

You will state to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that it is only necessary to bring this matter under the cognizance of the Austrian Government in order to ensure the necessary orders being given to put a stop to that practice.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

* Nos. 566, 567, 568, and 570.

† No. 570.

‡ No. 568.

No. 70.

The Earl of Westmorland to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 6.)

My Lord,

Vienna, October 31, 1854.

I CALLED the attention of Count Buol, in conformity with your Lordship's directions in your despatch of the 24th instant, to the statements contained in Lord Stratford's despatches, by which it appears that the vessels belonging to the Lloyds Steam Company are allowed to carry slaves, and I stated to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that it is only necessary to bring this matter under the cognizance of the Austrian Government in order to ensure the necessary orders being given to put a stop to that practice.

Count Buol said he had never heard a syllable about such a practice; that it was contrary to law to detain any person as a slave on board an Austrian vessel; that the moment they came on board they were free, and that any person who chose had a right to deliver them from such bondage.

Count Buol stated that he rejoiced in the success which had attended Lord Stratford's exertions upon this subject, and he was satisfied that if any case of the nature stated had taken place, if any persons in that condition had been transported on board an Austrian vessel, it must have arisen from the concealment of their condition, and he was sure the Internuncio would, upon application, immediately put a stop to such an illegal proceeding.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WESTMORLAND.

No. 71.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Earl of Westmorland.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 10, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo, and I have to instruct you to state to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government have received with satisfaction the expression of his Excellency's conviction that the masters of the Austrian Lloyd steamers would not knowingly lend themselves to the conveyance of slaves by their vessels.

Your Lordship will state to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government hope that the Government of His Imperial Majesty will instruct the Internuncio to take measures in order to put a stop to such proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 72.

The Earl of Westmorland to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 27.)

My Lord,

Vienna, November 22, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, I stated to Count Buol that, while expressing the satisfaction you received from his communication as to the abolition of the Slave Trade by the Turkish Government, your Lordship was anxious that the Internuncio should be instructed to take measures in order to put a stop to the conveyance of slaves by the vessels of the Austrian Lloyds Company.

Count Buol stated that he had, by the last post, received a report from the Internuncio upon this subject, in which he described the manner in which some persons had brought families on board the Lloyd vessels, with regular passports,

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and had embarked on board those vessels as passengers for Constantinople ; that it was afterwards discovered that some of the persons embarked in this manner had been slaves, who were under the custody of the persons representing themselves as the heads of these families ; and Count Buol assured me that he would look through the correspondence upon this subject, which, as yet, he had not had time to do, and that he would write in the sense desired by your Lordship to the Internuncio with regard to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WESTMORLAND.

No. 73.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Earl of Westmorland.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 1, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th ultimo, respecting the conveyance of slaves from Georgia and Circassia in vessels belonging to the Austrian Lloyds Company, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, inclosing a copy of an instruction on the subject which had been addressed by the Ottoman Government to the Dragoman of the Porte, directing him to request the Austrian Legation to give orders for the prevention of any conveyance of Georgian or Circassian slaves in the Austrian steamers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 74.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Colloredo.

Foreign Office, January 31, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform Count Colloredo, &c., that he lost no time in referring to the proper department of Her Majesty's Government Count Colloredo's note of the 16th of October last, claiming, on behalf of Andrea Tripeovich, master of the Austrian merchant-vessel "*Raj*," compensation for the losses suffered by Captain Tripeovich in consequence of that vessel having been detained and searched on the coast of Africa by order of Captain Ogle, of Her Majesty's ship "*Arab*."

The Undersigned has just received, through the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a despatch from Captain Ogle, who is now employed on the West India Station, stating the circumstances under which the "*Raj*" was detained ; and the Undersigned, in transmitting to Count Colloredo copies of Captain Ogle's despatch and of its inclosures, begs leave to call his particular attention to the following facts, namely, that the "*Raj*" was consigned to Domingo Martinez, who is one of the most notorious slave-dealers in Africa ; that her supercargo was a Brazilian ; and that she had on board several articles of Slave Trade equipment, enumerated by Captain Ogle, the conveyance of which rendered the vessel liable to condemnation under the IXth Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Austria of the 20th of December, 1841.

The Undersigned, therefore, trusts that Count Colloredo will be convinced that Captain Tripeovich, so far from having been dealt with unjustly, was treated with great leniency and forbearance, as, indeed, he himself has admitted in his own voluntary declarations, copies of which accompany Captain Ogle's despatch.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 74.

Commander Ogle to Rear-Admiral Fanshawe.

Sir,

"Arab," at Port Royal, December 22, 1854.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of copies of a letter from the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and of its inclosure from the Austrian Minister in London, complaining of my conduct in having detained the Austrian brig "*Raj*" on charge of Slave Trade on the coast of Africa, with your directions that I am to report thereon for their Lordships' information.

I have the honour to make the following statement :

The Austrian brig "*Raj*" was visited in due form by the Senior Lieutenant of Her Majesty's sloop "*Arab*" on the first of February, 1854, at anchor off Porto Novo.

The vessel was found to have been chartered by parties at Bahia with a cargo of rum and tobacco, consigned to Don Martinez, the most notorious slave-dealer on the coast. On board was a Brazilian supercargo. These circumstances created suspicion.

On searching the hold, sundry articles (slave-coppers, poopoo-tubs, scoops for serving out farina, &c.) were found, being articles forbidden by the Treaty for the Suppression of the Slave Trade (vide Art. IX); the vessel was therefore detained, and taken to Lagos, but was liberated at the expiration of three days for the reasons set forth in the declaration made by the master of the Austrian brig before Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, a copy of which I inclose.

I beg to call their Lordships' attention to this declaration, in justification of my conduct.

I also forward a copy of a letter received from the master of the brig "*Raj*," to prove his ingratitude.

I have, &c. "

(Signed)

GRAHAM OGLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 74.

Deposition.

APPEARED voluntarily before me, Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, Diodate Andrea Tripeovich, captain and owner of the Austrian merchant brig "*Raj*," who declareth and saith that, being at Porto Novo, in the Bight of Benin, West Coast of Africa, on the 31st January, 1854, the brig which declarant owns and commands was visited by an officer from Her Britannic Majesty's sloop "*Arab*," Commander Ogle, who, on searching declarant's vessel, found sundry articles on board, namely, tubs, known as poopoo tubs, a quantity of mess kids and scoops for serving out farina; that these articles, forming part of slave equipment, and being on board contrary to the Articles of the Slave Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade concluded between Great Britain and Austria, Commander Ogle detained declarant's brig and conveyed her to the anchorage off Lagos, where lay Her Britannic Majesty's ship "*Penelope*" bearing the flag of the Commander-in-chief Rear Admiral Bruce. That a further search and inquiry having been instituted, the Commander-in-chief and Commander Ogle were satisfied that the Articles of Slave Trade equipment before-mentioned were put on board by one of the officers of declarant's brig as a speculation of his own, without declarant's having any knowledge of the purposes to which they might be applied, and of their being contrary to the stipulations of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade concluded between the two Powers, and upon declarant's throwing the said various articles of Slave Trade equipment overboard, declarant's vessel was immediately released from further detention.

The declarant further states, that during the three days his vessel was under detention, the search was conducted with care and in a manner to give

no cause of complaint, and that the decision of Commander Ogle, under the direction of his Commander-in-chief, Rear-Admiral Bruce, to restore declarant's vessel under the conditions mentioned above, was very considerate under the circumstances, and that declarant, so far from being dissatisfied, is most thankful, the brig "*Raj*" being his sole property, and declarant being now enabled to conclude his voyage.

(Signed)

DIODATE ANDREA TRIPEOVICH.

Signed before me, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, this 8th day of February, 1854.

(Signed)

B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 74.

*Captain Tripeovich to Commander Ogle.**

De mon bord, ce 1 Février, 1854.

Très honcré le Commandant Graham Ogle,

JE vous supplie très humblement, M. le Commandanté, de me gracier pour cette foi, et de ne me laissez ruiner entièrement par cause d'un autre parskué les objet qu'on a trouves n'appartiens pas à moi qui à mon maitre d'équipage et qui je ne conaisai entièrement. Je savais qu'il avait quelque chose, mais je ne savais pas combien, et je ne pensais pas qu'eut prandra tout de rigueur pour ses objites. Quante aux esclaves que vous, Monsieur, sospretez sur moi je vous jure au Dieu, et en mon honneur, que absolument je n'ava le moindre pansé et que n'aurais jamais consanti d'embarquer sur mon bord des esclavs, connaissant très bien que cela eut defendu par nos loi et par l'humanité et que cette commerce n'est pas toléré en Europe. Si vous me prenez le bâtiment vous ne toue que pauvre home que je sais j'ai n'ai rien autre au monde e c'est mon d'unique esperance. Il n'y a point d'exemple que bâtiment Autrichiene ay jamais chargé des esclaves et n'y pansez par que moi dans ma viellez vieillard me dishoner avec cette action.

Je vous souplie en genou, M. le Comandanté, par amour de Dieu d'avoir compassion d'un miserable desespéré et innocent, et je prie le Segniur pour votre conservation, avec un votre bon information aupré de M. l'Amiraille vous pouvez me saiver. Ayez pitié, M. le Commandanté, et je suis en vos mains que je besse trehonblement.

Votre, &c.

(Signé)

DIODATE ANDREA TRIPEOVICH,

Di Brik "Roy de Autrichien."

No. 75.

Count Colloredo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 2.)

M. le Comte,

Chandos House, le 2 Fevrier, 1855.

JE m'empresse de transmettre à votre Excellence mes remerciements des renseignements contenus dans la note du 13 Janvier que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser, M. le Comte, au sujet de la visite du bâtiment Autrichien "*Raj*" par le brig Anglais "*Arab*;" et saisis, &c.

(Signé)

COLLOREDO.

* A literal copy ; the mistakes are in the original.

BRAZIL.

No. 76.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 8, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 13th of January and 11th of February last respectively,* I have the honour of inclosing translation of a note of the 6th instant, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, communicating to me the sentence by which the Municipal Judge of the District of Marianna has declared the woman named Maria, and her two children, slaves of the late John Craven, to be free and restored to liberty.

I likewise beg to inclose a copy of my reply of the 7th instant to Senhor de Abreo, requesting, as an appeal has been made in this case to a higher Court, to be informed when the individuals in question are actually placed in possession of liberty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 76.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, March 6, 1854.

WITH reference to my note dated the 7th of February last, which was accompanied by the information received from the President of the Province of Minas Geraes in respect to the case of the freedom of the three slaves of the British subject, John Craven, who died intestate in the city of Marianna, I have the honour to hand to Mr. Henry Francis Howard, &c., for his information, the inclosed copy of the sentence pronounced in that cause by the substitute Municipal Judge of the district of Marianna, and by which Maria, of the Monjollo nation, and her Creole children, Antonio and Maria, are declared free and restored to liberty, and to the full enjoyment of it, although the said Judge has appealed, *ex officio*, to the Supreme Court of that district.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 76.

Sentence.

(Translation.)

HAVING seen and examined this verbal process, in which are plaintiffs Maria Monjollo and her children, Maria and Antonio, Creoles, assisted by their curator, Dr. José Marçal dos Santos, and defendants the curator of the inhe-

* See Class B, presented 1854, Nos. 147 and 158.

ritance of the Englishman, John Craven, and the collector of the public revenue; the plaintiffs allege that, having been the said John Craven's slaves, they were at all times kindly and charitably treated by him, and that such was the affectionate manner in which they communed with one another, that he seemed rather to be their father than their owner, and they, the plaintiffs, to be his children, and not his slaves; that he, in thus treating them, at the same time assured them and other persons, and publicly said, that the plaintiffs would remain free at his death, being constantly in this beneficent intention towards them; so much so, that having, on the 20th of October, 1849, had a paper written, which is annexed at page 3 to the process, he therein declared that the plaintiffs were to remain free,—an intention thus manifested, both in writing and verbally before many persons, and which remained unaltered at his death, concluding that they were therefore to be declared freed;—all of which, having been seen and examined, the proofs given, and no efficacious opposition appearing on the part of the collector or of the curator of the inheritance, I adjudicate this action to have been well-grounded, for the purpose of declaring, as I do declare, the plaintiffs, Maria Monjollo and her children, Maria and Antonio, Creoles, to be free; and I order that they be restored to liberty in order that they may fully enjoy it, and I condemn the curator of the inheritance in the costs.

I hold the present to be published in the hands of the Clerk of the Court, who is to make it known, and I appeal *ex officio* to the Supreme Tribunal of the district.

Marianna, February 18, 1854.

(Signed)

MANOEL JULIO DE MIRANDA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 76.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of yesterday's date, and to return you my thanks for the welcome intelligence which it conveys of the liberation, by the sentence of the Municipal Judge of Marianna, of the woman and children, slaves of the late John Craven.

As I perceive, however, that an appeal has been made to another Court, I shall be obliged to your Excellency to inform me when the individuals in question are actually placed in possession of liberty.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 77.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 13, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th ultimo,* inclosing translation of a note of the 3rd of that month, which I had received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor d'Abreo, explaining, in reply to a former note of mine, the provisions of the Imperial Decree of December last, relative to the emancipation of a certain class of so-called free Africans, I have the honour of transmitting herewith the copy of a further note, together with its inclosure, which I addressed to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo, on the 3rd instant, with a view to induce the Brazilian Government to accelerate and facilitate the restoration of all the Africans so denominated to the enjoyment of full liberty.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 160.

Inclosure 1 in No. 77.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 3, 1854.

I HAD the honour of duly receiving the note addressed to me by your Excellency on the 3rd ultimo, stating, in answer to mine of the 13th January last, the intentions of the Imperial Government in respect to the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, relative to the emancipation of the liberated Africans, and I beg to return to your Excellency my thanks for the explanations which it contains. That note, however, suggests some observations to me, which I accordingly do myself the honour of submitting for your appreciation.

In the first instance, your Excellency remarks that the necessary distinction between liberty and emancipation is not made in my above-mentioned note. To this I beg to reply, that as far as the Mixed Commissions were concerned, the 7th Article of the Regulations annexed to the Additional Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, provided that the slaves should receive from the Commissions a certificate of emancipation, and the term "emancipation" was likewise employed in the judgments pronounced by those Commissions. The fact, however, that a very large class of so-called "free Africans," have for a great length of time been unjustly and unlawfully kept in bondage is so notorious, and has formed the subject of such reiterated complaints on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that it will be unnecessary for me now to dwell upon it.

Your Excellency then proceeds to explain the distinction in question, and in so doing refers to the Brazilian instructions of the 29th of October, 1834, and 19th of November, 1835, and states that they had, with regard to the hiring out of the free Africans, the double object in view of aiding, by means of the wages of those Africans, their reexportation, and of keeping them in the mean time under a tutelar administration.

I find that the 9th Article of the last-named instructions of the year 1835, provides that "the produce of the hiring shall be applied either in aid of the expenses of the reexportation of the Africans, or for their benefit." As the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last imposes upon the Africans emancipated under it the obligation of residing in the places appointed by the Government, and as your Excellency states that insuperable difficulties have, since the publication of the instructions, prevented their reexportation, I conclude that it is the intention of the Imperial Government to adopt the alternative mentioned in the above-named Article, of applying the accumulated produce of their hiring for their benefit, by assisting them in their establishment and maintenance; and I should feel obliged to your Excellency for information on this important point. I feel persuaded, however, that the Imperial Government will not fail to afford every facility to such of the Africans in question who may be desirous of leaving the Empire.

In reply to my objections to the length of servitude required of the free Africans previous to their total emancipation, your Excellency states that the Imperial Government, in order that this period should not be arbitrary, had fixed the term of fourteen years, which was that which had already been established in § 5 of the Alvará of the 26th of January, 1818, for Africans declared free by the Mixed Commission created under the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817; but I beg leave to remark that the same paragraph of that Alvará, adds that the "time of servitude may be shortened by two or more years, according as the good conduct of these persons may entitle them to full freedom;" and I therefore think that I was justified in my objections to the positive and protracted term of fourteen years fixed by the Imperial Decree of December last, without regard to the additional clause which I have just quoted, and of which I still hope that the Imperial Government will be disposed to give the benefit to the Africans to whom the Decree applies.

Neither the instructions of the 29th October, 1834, nor those of the 19th November, 1835, prescribe a fixed term; both of them, on the contrary, imposed upon the hirers of the Africans the obligation of giving them up whenever called upon by the Imperial Government, either for the purpose of reexportation or by reason of the non-fulfilment of any of the conditions required of them.

I observe that the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last, makes no mention of the free Africans who are employed in the public service, and with regard to whose period of service the Alvará of 1818 fixed the same limits as were established for freedmen hired out to private individuals; and I shall be obliged to your Excellency to inform me what course the Imperial Government proposes to follow in regard to them.

With regard to the petition clause in the Imperial Decree of December last, I do not find any similar one in the International Treaties or Conventions, nor in the Alvará of the year 1818, or the instructions of 1834 and 1835: according to your Excellency's statement, it has been introduced on considerations of public order, which I fully agree with you ought to be taken into due account, with a view to prevent the inconvenience which might arise from a sudden and tumultuous emancipation of a large body of Africans; but I take the liberty of observing that if the Imperial Government had gradually emancipated the Africans in question, any danger accruing from simultaneous emancipation would have been obviated; and although I receive with lively satisfaction the assurance contained in your Excellency's note, that the Imperial Government will not consent to the provisions of the Decree in favour of the Africans being eluded in consequence of the existence of the clause in question, I cannot but entertain apprehensions that the clause will act as a serious impediment to emancipation, and will thus defeat the benevolent intentions of the Imperial Government.

It therefore appears to me that the Imperial Government would do well to abandon it, and relieve the Africans from the onus of petitioning for their liberty, by assuming themselves the charges of emancipation, and I take the liberty of suggesting that the Imperial Government should call upon the Judge or Curator of the Africans, whoever may be the proper authority, for a report of the length and nature of the services of the Africans to be emancipated, and that the Imperial Government should then proceed to emancipate them, making such arrangements as may obviate any fear of a disturbance of public order.

The apprehensions which I entertain generally concerning the difficulties which the free Africans are likely to encounter before procuring their full liberty, are confirmed by the case of one of them named Claudio, which has come to my knowledge, and of which the circumstances are the following:

In the month of January last Claudio presented himself to Her Majesty's Consul, and inquired whether he could be furnished with a passage on board an English vessel. Mr. Westwood having found an English captain ready to take Claudio, the latter addressed a petition for his liberty to the Curator, Senhor C. H. de Figueiredo, who called upon him to prove that he had the means of leaving the Empire: upon which Claudio procured a certificate from Mr. Westwood to the effect that the captain of an English vessel was willing to take him. This, however, did not suffice, and Claudio was obliged, as your Excellency will perceive from the inclosed copy of a letter of the 26th of January last, from Senhor de Figueiredo to Mr. Westwood, to procure another certificate to the same effect, signed by the master of the vessel in question and countersigned by the Consul. Claudio's certificate of liberty was then delivered, but he was obliged to obtain from your Excellency's office a passport, which I understand he had to pay for, besides incurring other charges consequent upon the necessity of employing an agent, and which it would have been impossible for him to meet had he not been assisted.

I have not learnt that the Curator lent him any pecuniary aid; the question may therefore be asked, what became of the produce of his hiring? It is necessary to add that these various formalities, and the steps which Claudio was obliged to take, and of which I have only related a part, were not accomplished under several weeks, and required, it may be affirmed, more perseverance and energy to overcome than could be found amongst the generality of Africans.

In conclusion, I beg to express the hope that the considerations and facts which I have thus had the honour of laying before your Excellency, will induce the Imperial Government to follow up their humane intentions, and to adopt additional measures with a view to accelerate the emancipation of the unfortunate class of individuals of whom this note treats, and thus repair the injury of long standing done to them.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 77.

The Curator of Freed Africans to Consul Westwood.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 26, 1854.

THE free African Claudio, who, according to the certificate of the English Consul, may embark on board the English schooner, must present a paper from the master of the schooner, showing that he takes him in his vessel out of the Empire, because the Government has exempted this African from further services, on condition that he should reside out of the Empire. This paper is required for presentation at the receiving office of the Municipality of the Capital, and for the delivery of the letter with which he is to proceed.

The paper which the captain is to furnish, must be similar to the copy given to the free African Claudio, and be signed also by the Consul.

The Curator,
(Signed) C. H. DE FIGUEIREDO.

No. 78.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 15, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd of January last,* I this day explained to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, with reference to his note to me of the 11th of December, 1853, that the communications which had passed between your Lordship and M. de Macedo, with regard to the proposed Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Brazil, related generally to that Treaty, and not to the particular question as to the visiting of Brazilian merchant-vessels; and in order the better to convey to his Excellency the contents of your Lordship's despatch, I read it to him, and left with him a copy of it.

Beyond alluding to the further elucidation of his meaning in respect to your Lordship's communications with M. de Macedo, as given in his note to me of the 30th of December last, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 1st of January of this year,† Senhor de Abreo did not make any further remark upon your Lordship's above-mentioned despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 79.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 19, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th ultimo, and I have to instruct you to inform the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with great satisfaction that the Municipal Judge of Marianna has pronounced a judgment directing that the three slaves who belonged to the late John Craven are to be set at liberty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 141.

† Ibid., No. 142.

No. 80.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 27, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed on the 3rd ultimo to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, urging the Brazilian Government to adopt measures to accelerate the entire liberation of the negroes in Brazil, emancipated under the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817; and I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve of your note to Senhor d'Abreo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 81.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 27, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th ultimo, reporting that you had communicated to Senhor d'Abreo a copy of my despatch to you of the 23rd of January last,* in which I explained that the Brazilian Government were mistaken in supposing that Her Majesty's Government intended to issue orders to British cruizers to discontinue to search and detain Brazilian vessels suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade; and I have in reply to express to you my approval of the manner in which you have executed my instructions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 82.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 10, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of February last,† I addressed on the 8th instant to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, calling his Excellency's attention to the cruelty of the system of exporting slaves coastwise in large numbers from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, as exemplified by Mr. Morgan, Her Majesty's Consul at the former port, and suggesting the expediency of putting a stop to it by some legislative enactment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 8, 1854.

THE list,‡ of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, of the number of slaves, amounting to no less than 1,080, exported coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro during the year 1853, has lately been received by Her Majesty's Government from Mr. Morgan, Her Majesty's Consul at the former port, who has likewise pointed out the grievous hardships which this practice entails upon the negro population in Brazil.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 141.

† Ibid., No. 162.

‡ Ibid., p. 259.

After a few years' residence in Brazil, the Bozal negro becomes comparatively civilized. In time he marries and has a family, and, like the rest of mankind, must be supposed to possess feelings of attachment to his progeny. All at once a slave-trader comes into the market from Rio de Janeiro, buys up from the needy or avaricious masters all those slaves he can obtain, and in most cases is the cause of the separation of a father from his wife and children, and *vice versa*, the unfortunate African being perhaps sold at his ulterior destination to some harder master, or to some other unprincipled speculator.

This Traffic, which to the honour of the Brazilian name does not appear to be prevalent amongst Brazilians, but to be carried on chiefly by Portuguese, being covered by the protection of the law, I have been directed by the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to call your Excellency's attention to the cruelty of the system involved in it, as above exemplified, and to suggest that it should be put a stop to by some Legislative enactment.

I venture to hope that the Imperial Government, who have evinced such humane and earnest intentions in regard to the abolition of the Slave Trade, will not be indisposed to entertain this suggestion on the part of my Government for the suppression of a Traffic not less cruel perhaps than the African Trade itself.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 83.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 10, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch to me of the 1st ultimo,* I have notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the directions given by the Brazilian Government to the proper authorities on the subject of vessels having been reported to have cleared out from Bahia for slave-trading purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 84.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 12, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing a copy of the note which I addressed on the 8th instant to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreu, in execution of your Lordship's instruction relative to the exportation of slaves coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, I have the honour of inclosing the translation of a reply, dated the 10th instant, which I have since received from his Excellency, stating that the Brazilian Government will take the subject of that note into their consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 154.

Inclosure in No. 84.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 10, 1854.

IN acknowledging the receipt of the note which was addressed to me on the 8th instant by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., with a list of the slaves exported coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro with passports granted by the authorities of the said province during the last year, I have the honour to state to him that the Imperial Government will take into their consideration the subject-matter of the said note.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 85.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 12, 1854.

HAVING communicated to Admiral Henderson your Lordship's decision that the liberated African, Fernando, who forms the subject of your despatch to me of the 7th ultimo,* should await here the first opportunity that may offer for sending him to a British Colony; and having learnt from the Admiral that such an opportunity would occur in a couple of days by Her Majesty's ship "Juno," proceeding to the Cape of Good Hope, I have availed myself of his offer to order Fernando a passage on board that vessel, and I have accordingly requested him to send the African in her to the Cape of Good Hope.

I have likewise written to the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, placing at his disposal the said Fernando, who is desirous of rejoining his family at Fernando Po, or Cabinda.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 86.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 13, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th of February last,† transmitting copies of my correspondence with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of two Portuguese vessels, the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," which left the Douro some time ago on a slave-trading expedition, I have the honour of inclosing the translation of a further note of the 11th instant which I have received from his Excellency, conveying the latest information obtained by the Brazilian Government on the subject of those vessels, together with a copy of my reply of this day's date, stating how much obliged I am persuaded Her Majesty's Government will feel for his attention in communicating that intelligence.

I cannot allow this opportunity to go by without calling your Lordship's attention to the difficulties which are interposed in the way of what I believe to be the honest endeavour which the Brazilian Government are at present making to put an end to the African Slave Trade, by the ease with which the slave-traders, whose head-quarters are at Lisbon and Oporto, are permitted to carry on their machinations in Portugal, and by the impunity with which they are enabled to fit out and dispatch slave-trading expeditions from Portuguese ports.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 157.

† Ibid., No. 163.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., that from the last information received by the Imperial Government respecting the Portuguese schooners "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," it appears: first, that these two vessels are not the property of Bernardo José Machado; but that they belong to Thomas da Costa Ramos, who now resides in Lisbon; secondly, that the said vessels were in effect destined to the coast of Africa for the purpose of bringing away slaves, and on board of one of them there was a certain Venezuelan subject, Benito Derizanz, long accustomed to the Traffic, who is strongly suspected of having been commissioned by the said Costa Ramos, with whom he is connected, to manage the transaction; thirdly, that having touched at Novo Redondo, they there received cargoes of slaves, with which they steered towards Havana, and not for any of the ports of the coasts of this Empire; fourthly, that it appears that a British cruizer had also touched at the same place, but too late to prevent the embarkation of the slaves.

Although the Government of Her Britannic Majesty have probably received the same information through other channels, I hasten to transmit it to Mr. Howard, as the true destination of those vessels may still be unknown, and in order that suitable intelligence may be conveyed to the proper quarter.

I reiterate, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 11th instant, conveying to me the latest intelligence received by the Imperial Government relative to the two Portuguese vessels the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which left Oporto some time ago on a slave-trading expedition, and I will not fail to transmit a copy of it to Her Majesty's Government, who, whether they are already possessed of the information in question or not, will, I am convinced, feel equally obliged to your Excellency for your attention in communicating it to them through me.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 87.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report the circumstances under which I have thought it my duty to afford my protection to a liberated African of the name of John, and the measures which I have taken concerning him.

On the 20th of March, this African presented himself to Mr. Consul Westwood, and stated that he was detained in slavery here, although entitled to his freedom, and that he, therefore, claimed British protection. After a preparatory examination, Mr. Westwood referred him to me, with the expression of his opinion that he considered him entitled to such protection.

On my questioning this negro, who spoke English fluently, I was told by him that he was born at Benguela, and brought to Rio when a child; that about seventeen years ago he was taken by his master on a slave-trading expedition to the coast of Africa, but that the vessel having been captured by a British cruizer, he was taken to the Cape of Good Hope and declared free; that

he then served an apprenticeship of eight years at Cape Town, under different masters, whose names are known to me, and continued in service at the Cape afterwards, until within about three years ago, when he took a passage in a vessel coming to Rio. Here his certificate of freedom was stolen from him, and a friend of his former Brazilian master again reduced him to slavery, and sent him into the interior of the country, with the object of selling him; but the sale not having been effected, John was brought back to this city, and had been beaten and ill-treated by the person who pretended to be his master, and that he had consequently taken an opportunity of making his escape, and seeking the protection of the British Consul.

The particulars into which John entered, the manner in which he related them, and the circumstance of his speaking English perfectly well, for a negro, as well as the knowledge which he showed of the names of the few latter Governors of the Cape, and of residents there, left no doubt on my mind but that the main features of his story were correct, and that he was entitled to my protection.

I accordingly granted it to him. At the same time, however, I addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, stating the course which I had thought it my duty to pursue, and informing his Excellency that I addressed myself to him, in order that the fact of John's liberty might be established, and that the Brazilian Government might, should the circumstances of the case prove to be such as reported by John, take the necessary measures for punishing the individual who had illegally kept him in slavery since his arrival from the Cape.

I have not yet received any reply from Senhor de Abreo; but in the mean time I have learned from private sources that John's late master, Senhor Antonio da Costa, has been interrogated, that he declares that he renounces all claim to John, and that he is endeavouring to make out that he had bought him of his former master, not knowing him to be a free man.

In the mean time, my further experience of John's character, the fact of his speaking Dutch besides English, as well as other circumstances, have confirmed me in my first impressions that he has a full right to his liberty, and in my determination to continue to protect him; and an opportunity occurring of sending him back to the Cape by Her Majesty's ship "Juno," which sails for that destination to-morrow, I have this day sent him on board Her Majesty's ship "Madagascar," which has replaced the "Crescent" as a receiving ship in this port, and I have requested Admiral Henderson to order him a passage on board the "Juno," which the Admiral has engaged to do.

At the same time I have written to the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope recommending John to his good offices, and requesting his Excellency to be so good as to make inquiries respecting him, and to communicate to me the result.

I have been obliged to act upon my own responsibility in this case, and I venture to hope that your Lordship may not see reason to disapprove of the course I have adopted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 87.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1854.

I HASTEN to inform your Excellency that an African, who calls himself John, presented himself this evening to me, and, on the ground of his having been liberated at the Cape of Good Hope, claimed my protection, which I have thought it my duty to grant him under the following circumstances:—

From the statement this African has made to me, it appears that he was born at Benguella, and brought to Rio when a child, and consigned to slavery. Some time subsequently—about seventeen years ago—he was taken by his master, Senhor Antonio Augusto de Oliveira, to the coast of Africa, on a slave-trading voyage in a Portuguese vessel called the "*Congresso*." The "*Congresso*" was, however, captured by one of Her Majesty's cruisers, and taken to the Cape

of Good Hope, where John was declared free, and where he served an apprenticeship of eight years with Judge Mansell and Mr. Ker Hamilton, from both of whom he received wages. He then served other masters at the Cape, and about three years ago embarked as a passenger on board the British vessel "Black Squall" for Rio, where he intended to take service. Soon after his arrival here, his certificate of freedom, delivered by Mr. Field at Cape Town, was stolen from him, as he has reason to believe, by a countryman of his, and, being taken up by the police agents, he was given up to Senhor Antonio Luiz da Costa, who resides in Rua Nova da Prainha, in this city, on the plea of the latter being a friend of Senhor Oliveira, John's former master. Senhor Luiz da Costa has ever since held him in slavery, and about seven months ago sent him in charge of a person called José Custodio to the house of a Captain Barreto, at a place called Rosal, apparently with the object of selling him.

The sale not having been effected, as it appears from the circumstance of John speaking English fluently, and declaring to Captain Barreto that he was a free man, he was sent back to Senhor Costa about ten days ago, and was severely flogged by him, and still bears the marks of flagellation, and was put in irons for not having concealed his history and his knowledge of English. John, who says that he was here called Joaquim, took the opportunity of making his escape last night, and presented himself to-day to Her Majesty's Consul, by whom he was immediately referred to me. From the fact of John speaking English fluently, and of his having mentioned the name of Mr. Ker Hamilton, with whose family I am acquainted, and whom I know to have filled a Government office at the Cape, and from the clear nature of his statement, I am induced to give full credence to his story, and consequently I consider him as entitled to my protection, having once touched the British soil, where his emancipation was a matter of course. I have therefore the honour of addressing myself to your Excellency in order that the fact of his liberty may be established, and that, supposing the circumstances to have been such as he reports them, the Imperial Government may take the necessary steps for punishing the individual who has illegally kept him in slavery.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 88.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.*

I HAVE to inform you that I have received from the Duke of Newcastle a copy of a letter addressed to his Grace by Mr. Joseph Sturge of Birmingham respecting the treatment of the coolies, or Chinese labourers, imported into Cuba and Brazil, in which that gentleman states that the coolies, on their arrival in Cuba, are publicly bought and sold, and treated as slaves, and that their condition is little better in Brazil.

I have therefore to call your attention to this subject, and to desire that you will report to me any information which you may be able to obtain as to the condition of the free labourers imported into Brazil.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 89.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo,* stating that you have availed yourself of an opportunity afforded to you by Rear-Admiral Henderson, to send the liberated African Fernando to the Cape of Good Hope; and I have to acquaint you that, under the peculiar circumstances

* No. 85.

of this man's case, I approve of your having sent him to that colony; but if a large number of negroes should happen at any time to be placed at your disposal for transmission to a British colony, you will adhere to the practice pointed out by Her Majesty's Government and pursued by your predecessor, of sending them either to Demerara or to Trinidad.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 90.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,* inclosing a copy of a note addressed to you on the 11th ultimo by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating to you the information which had come to the knowledge of the Imperial Government as to the proceedings of the Portuguese vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto on a slave-trading voyage; and I have in reply to instruct you to express to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the information contained in his note to you above referred to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 91.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,† stating the circumstances under which you have afforded your protection to a liberated African named John, and have obtained for him a passage in Her Majesty's ship "*Juno*" to the Cape of Good Hope; and I have to acquaint you that I entirely approve the course which you have taken in behalf of this man.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 92.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of three important Decrees with regard to slavery in Cuba, which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March last,‡ and which are intended to promote the employment of slaves in agricultural labour, the protection of free labourers coming from foreign countries, and the registration of slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 93.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, called upon me this evening to acquaint me that he had received information that a schooner, of the nationality

* No. 86.

† No. 87.

‡ Inclosures in No. 384.

of which he was not cognizant, was expected in a fortnight or three weeks from the coast of Africa, for the purpose of landing a cargo of 400 or 500 Africans, at or near a place called Tramandahy, on the coast of the Brazilian Province of Rio Grande do Sul; that from the source from which he had received this information, he believed the report to be probable; that the Brazilian Government had already taken some preliminary measures in the matter, and proposed to send a Government steamer to-morrow or the day after, to cruize off the coast in question, in order to intercept the expected vessel; and he inquired of me whether Admiral Henderson had a steamer at his disposal for the same purpose.

I returned his Excellency my best thanks for the information, and stated that I would write to the Admiral on the subject.

I have accordingly transmitted Senhor de Abreo's statement to Admiral Henderson, and suggested to him to order such efficient vessel as he may have at his disposal, on the service in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 94.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 13, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th of April last, reporting the steps which had been taken by the Brazilian Government to intercept a schooner which was expected shortly to arrive in the neighbourhood of Tramandahy from the west coast of Africa, with a cargo of 400 or 500 slaves; and I have in reply to instruct you to express to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the measures taken by the Imperial Government in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 95.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith copies and translations of a correspondence which has been exchanged between the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and myself, relative to the Bozal Africans found in the possession of a Senhor Paes, a merchant of Nitherohy.

Several cases of attempts to reduce free Africans to slavery lately having come to my knowledge, I had thought it advisable to ask for information on the subject of those Africans.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 95.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpa de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 29, 1854.

THE public prints have recently announced the arrest, by the authorities of Nitherohy, of Senhor Paes, of the firm of Paes, Vianna, and Co., for having two Bozal Africans in his possession. This circumstance would either denote that the territory of Brazil has again been disgraced by a landing of Africans, or that they are illegally introduced in small numbers into the country,

in consequence of sufficient vigilance not being exercised by the Imperial authorities in the ports of entrance concerning the legitimacy of the possession of slaves by passengers and other persons arriving from slave-trading countries.

Upon these points, consequently, I should feel obliged for any information with which your Excellency may be able to furnish me.

The same papers state, that the influential slave-trading friends of Senhor Paes are ready to make every sacrifice to rescue him from the consequences of the crime with which he is charged, but I am persuaded that it is unnecessary for me to call your Excellency's attention to these statements, as I am convinced that if the charge is substantiated against Senhor Paes, the Imperial Government, far from permitting him to be screened from the just penalty he may have incurred, will be disposed to vindicate the majesty of the law and to visit him, whatever his station in life may be, with its fullest severity.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 95.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 5, 1854.

IN addition to the note which, on the 31st ultimo, I addressed to Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., acknowledging the receipt of the one which he addressed to me dated the 29th, I have the honour to transmit to him the explanations just received from the Minister of Justice relative to the fact of which Mr. Howard's said note treats, that is, the imprisonment of M. Paes by the authorities of Niterohy, in consequence of his having in his possession two Bozal negroes.

From these elucidations, furnished by the Chief of the Police of the province of Rio de Janeiro, Mr. Howard will see that the said Africans formed no part of any recent and unknown disembarkations which may have taken place in that province, there being every reason for believing, on the contrary, that they escaped from the captures effected in Manguinhos or in Quissaman in February and November, 1851; with which, the apprehensions manifested by Mr. Howard in his note, that the territory of Brazil had again been disgraced by a disembarkation of Africans, and that these had been introduced in small number through the want of vigilance on the part of the Brazilian authorities, ought to be dispelled.

From the same elucidations Mr. Howard will learn, that the respective process is pending at present which caused the discovery of the two Africans in the house of the Portuguese, João Joaquim Paes, and who were considered as Bozal, but whose freedom has already been adjudicated by the Municipal Judge of that capital; and according to the information communicated by the Minister of Justice, the authorities of Niterohy have displayed the greatest energy and activity in their inquiries into the crime, and the prosecution of the indicated criminals, and the Imperial Government cannot but consider as perfectly gratuitous the supposition that they could be in any manner influenced to depart from the performance of their duties.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 95.

The Chief of Police to the President of the Province of Rio de Janeiro.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 31, 1854.

IN consequence of the information lodged with the Sub-delegate of the Police of this city by the Portuguese merchant Joaquim Gonçalves do Monte Vianna, against his partner, also a Portuguese, João Joaquim Paes, that the latter kept in his house Bozal Africans, and saying that he had resolved upon

laying that information in order to avoid their commercial firm being brought into trouble by that fact, the authority was of opinion that that denunciation ought not to be disregarded, it being above all desirable to ascertain whether any disembarkation of Africans had lately been so clandestinely effected as to be unknown to the public authority; and therefore, upon searching the house of the said merchant, two Africans were, in fact, found there, one of whom was evidently a Bozal, and the other still imperfectly speaking the national language. Accordingly, the said Sub-delegate sent João Joaquim Paes to prison, and having submitted the case of the two Africans to the Municipal Judge of this city, they were by the latter declared free.

The proper criminal proceedings being then about to be instituted, I particularly desired the Sub-delegate to try, by every means within his reach, to investigate how the disembarkation of those Africans had been effected; and not only from the declarations made before the Municipal Judge, but likewise from the fresh examination which I ordered to be proceeded with in the presence of the Sub-delegate, it was ascertained that one of these Africans, named Luiz, of the Benguella nation, disembarked in Macahé at the time that His Majesty the Emperor passed through that place in his journey to Campos, and having been taken to the house of the merchant Francisco Domingues, was sold from thence to Cantagallo, where he remained in the house of the planter João Antonio de Moraes, until he was again sold and brought to this capital. The other African, named José, of the Congo nation, not having been interrogated in the presence of the Municipal Judge respecting the circumstances of his disembarkation, by reason of his not knowing how to speak, declared before the Sub-delegate, through the means of an interpreter, that he came from the coast of Africa about three years ago, and disembarked in Campos, was afterwards removed to Cantagallo, where he remained in the house of a planter, whose name he could not tell; it therefore appearing to me that he is one of those Africans who escaped from the captures effected in Manguinhos or in Quissaman in February and November, 1851.

I must add, that João Joaquim Paes, since his imprisonment, and in order to move from his shoulders the responsibility attending the possession of these negroes, presented two bills of sale furnished with the competent certificates of the duty having been paid in Cantagallo, from which it is seen that the said Africans were there sold to his agent by the planters, João Antonio de Moraes and João de Faria Salgado, which confirms the declarations made by the said Africans relative to the places and persons in whose possession they had been. Although the process instituted for the above-mentioned reason is not yet terminated, I have nevertheless considered it my duty to bring what has occurred to your Excellency's knowledge, putting you thus in possession of the facts, in consequence of their having produced some sensation in the capital, and the public press having noticed them; and I await the conclusion of the said process to cause extracts to be made of the most important documents, and to report the result.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE RICARDO DE SA REGO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 95.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 5th instant, in reply to mine of the 29th ultimo, and to thank you for the information which it contains concerning the arrest of Senhor Paes, and the two Africans found in his possession.

At the same time I must express my surprise at the observation contained in your Excellency's note, that the Imperial Government cannot but consider as perfectly gratuitous the supposition that any influences could make the authorities at Nitherohy deviate from the performance of their duties.

Speaking generally, I referred, it is true, to the possibility of Africans being imported in small numbers, in consequence of sufficient vigilance not being exercised in the ports of entrance by the Imperial authorities concerning

the legitimacy of the possession of slaves by passengers and other persons arriving from slave-trading countries : but my note did not contain, as will be seen from its wording, any charge or imputation against the authorities of Nitherohy, who appear to have acted with energy and decision : on the contrary, whilst I alluded in it to the reports to be found in the public journals that the slave-trading friends of Senhor Paes were ready to make every sacrifice to rescue him from the consequences of the crime of which he had been accused, I expressed the conviction that the ends of justice would not be allowed to be defeated, should the charges against him be substantiated ; consequently, I beg to submit that, if there has been an erroneous or gratuitous supposition, it has not been on my part.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 96.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith an extract, in translation, from that part of the speech held by the Emperor of Brazil on opening yesterday the session of the General Assembly of the Legislature, which relates to the question of the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 96.

Extract from the Speech of the Emperor of Brazil, May 7, 1854.

(Translation.)

MY Government continue to exercise the most active and energetic vigilance in the repression of the Slave Trade, by the employment of the whole of the means at their disposal towards the extinction of that abominable Trade, and their efforts have been hitherto crowned with happy results.

I recommend to you the Project of Law initiated in the Senate at the latter end of the past session, which has for its object to render this repression the more effective.

No. 97.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd of March last,* I yesterday addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, a note inclosing a copy of the Portaria issued by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, ordering the expulsion from the Province of Angola of the Brazilian subject Francisco Antonio Flores, on account of his notorious participation in slave-trading operations.

In this Portaria allusion is made to Don Jacintho Derizanz, a well-known slave-trader. This individual arrived here lately under strong suspicions of having come for the purpose of concerting new schemes with his former associates. I accordingly, on the 8th instant, addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, urging his Excellency to cause his proceedings to be watched.

In the note in which I communicated to his Excellency the Portuguese Portaria, I again made reference to Senhor Derizanz.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 164.

Inclosure in No. 97.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

IT has come to my knowledge that the notorious slave-trader Jacintho, who was formerly captain of the steamer "*Providencia*," and was subsequently found on board of the "*Sarah*," which was burnt near this port by Her Majesty's ship "*Cormorant*," and who has now become a naturalized American citizen, has recently arrived here from the United States in the American brig "*General Pierce*," of which he is stated to be the owner.

It appears, that ever since Jacintho left Rio de Janeiro, he has been employed in conveying Africans to the Havana, in partnership with the slave-trader Costa Ramos; moreover, his brother, Benito, is said to have been captain of one of the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which some time ago left Oporto on a slave-trading expedition to the coast of Africa; and since his return here, he has, I am informed, been making inquiries after some of his former associates.

All these circumstances appear to indicate that Jacintho has come here for the purpose of concerting slave-trading transactions, and that the destination of the "*General Pierce*" may very probably be the coast of Africa. I therefore beg to call your Excellency's attention to these particulars, in case it should not already have been directed towards them with a view to the Imperial Government taking such measures as they may deem most expedient for watching, and, as the case may be, for frustrating the designs of so old an offender as Senhor Jacintho.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 98.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd of March last,* I have conveyed, in a note of yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the instructions sent to the President of the Province of Bahia as to the necessity of carefully inspecting and watching all vessels clearing out from thence for the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 99.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have embodied in a note which I addressed, under yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the contents of your Lordship's despatch to me of the 24th March last,† directing me to express to his Excellency the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the information furnished by him relative to the proceedings of the slave-dealers at Loanda, and also for the promise that the Brazilian Government will urge the Chamber of Deputies to pass the Bill for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, approved by the Senate

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 165.

† Ibid., No. 166.

last session; to inform his Excellency that Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon has been instructed to communicate to the Portuguese Government the above-mentioned information respecting the schemes of the slave-traders at Loanda; and to urge that Government to take effective measures for the prevention of those criminal projects; and likewise to inform his Excellency that Sir R. Pakenham has been instructed to urge the Portuguese Government to pass a law for the prevention of Slave Trade similar to that approved of by the Brazilian Senate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 100.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

CONSEQUENTLY upon the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of March last,* I yesterday addressed a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, expressing to his Excellency the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt, with reference to the report that certain vessels are supposed to be on their way to the coast of Brazil with cargoes of Africans on board, the vigorous and determined measures of the Brazilian Government in order to counteract these criminal projects of the slave-dealers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 101.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th ultimo,† I have the honour of inclosing to your Lordship the copy of a note which I addressed on the 8th instant to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, relating to the information which had reached me concerning the schooner which is expected shortly from the coast of Africa with a cargo of African slaves to be landed on the coast of the Brazilian Province of Rio Grande do Sul.

I also beg to inclose copies of a despatch of the 29th ultimo, from Admiral Henderson, informing me that he had sent Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Sharpshooter" to cruize off that part of the coast where the landing is expected.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

ALTHOUGH I think it probable that your Excellency has already received the same particulars which have reached me concerning the schooner which, according to the intelligence which you were so good as first to communicate to me, and which has likewise been subsequently conveyed to me, is shortly expected from the coast of Africa with a cargo of Africans to be landed on the coast of Rio Grande do Sul, I nevertheless

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 167.

† No. 93.

take the chance of your not having learnt those particulars, and I accordingly beg to report them.

It appears that the schooner in question was fitted out in the Bay of Garopas in the Province of St. Catherine's, that one of her owners is Manoel Moreira, who resides at St. Catherine's, and who was implicated in a previous slave-trading transaction; that others of the speculators belong to Rio Grande, whilst there are grounds for believing that Senhor João Augusto Pereira de Almeida, a Portuguese merchant of this capital, who left Rio de Janeiro for Rio Grande between thirty and forty days ago, is likewise interested in the proposed disembarkation of Africans, and undertook his voyage on business connected with it.

The schooner having been equipped at Garopas, it becomes a question how far the Captain of the port of St. Catherine's, Senhor José Maria Waldenque, may not have been cognizant of the affair.

Besides Tramandahy, first-mentioned to me by your Excellency, Cape St. Martha to the north of it, and Estreito to the south of it, have been pointed to me as places where the disembarkation might be attempted.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

Rear-Admiral Henderson to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

"Madagascar," Rio de Janeiro, April 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, communicating the information which has been given you of a schooner being expected to land a cargo of Africans at Tramandahy, on the coast of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, and suggesting that I should send a vessel to cruize in the vicinity of the expected landing.

I have ordered Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Sharpshooter" to proceed on the service in question, in the execution of which she will sail to-morrow morning.

The "Bonetta" was under orders to sail to-day, and, after visiting the anchorages inside Ilha Grande and the Island of Marambaia, to extend her cruize as far as St. Catherine's; but under the present circumstances she will not now proceed until I am joined by another vessel.

No. 102.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

HAVING observed in the public prints an advertisement, offering for hire or for sale, an African negress, of from 18 to 20 years of age, and consequently entitled to her liberty as necessarily imported into Brazil since the year 1831, I addressed, on the 5th instant, to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, calling his Excellency's attention to the fact, with a view to an investigation and to the punishment of the guilty.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo has acknowledged the receipt of my note, and informed me that he has brought the case to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 102.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 5, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 3rd instant, published in this capital, and to call your Excellency's attention to an advertisement which is contained in the fourth page, and which I have marked, offering for hire or sale, in the Rua do Sobão, No. 161, a negress, an African ("de nação" being the term employed), of from 18 to 20 years of age.

Now, it is evident that this negress must have been imported since the year 1831; that she has consequently a right to her liberty; and that the persons who have thus offered her for hire or sale have rendered themselves amenable to the penalties awarded by the law.

I have, therefore, thought it my duty to signal this fact to your Excellency, feeling persuaded that the knowledge of it will induce the Imperial Government to investigate the matter, and cause the guilty to be punished; for I am convinced that your Excellency will agree with me that, in order to suppress the Slave Trade, it is necessary not only to prevent the importation of Africans, but likewise to punish those who carry on the Slave Trade within the Empire itself.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 103.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

HAVING received private information of an attempt to reduce the child of a free African negress to slavery on the part of a merchant of this capital, Senhor Soares, I thought it advisable, although the case had been laid before the Brazilian police authorities, and they had taken some measures in consequence, to bring the matter under the notice of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, with a view to further inquiries being made, and to the punishment of those who may have offended against the law; and I accordingly addressed yesterday to Senhor Limpo de Abreo the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 103.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 10, 1854.

THE following circumstances have come to my knowledge, and I beg to call your Excellency's especial attention to them.

A merchant of this capital, Senhor Joaquim Louis Soares, residing in the Rua Direita, who is reported to be a Brazilian subject, had in his charge a free African woman, who, when the time of her service had expired, petitioned to be re-exported; this petition was granted. Whilst in the service of Soares, she had a daughter who was baptized in the parish of the Candelaria as a slave, and Soares consequently refused to allow this African woman to take her child with her. She went to the police to complain, and on inquiries being made, Soares alleged that the baptising of the child as a slave had been through mistake, and he obtained of the Bishop an order to the Vicar to baptise the child anew as free. The

ceremony took place four or five days after the mother had lodged her complaint, the child being 12 years old. The black woman's husband was arrested by the Delegate of Police (having taken an active part in the affair against Soares), but has been since set at liberty. The African woman has, it seems, been sent away from Rio de Janeiro in the steamer to the northern ports on the 8th instant, and the child has been withheld from her.

This appears to be one of those cases of which it has lately been my painful duty to bring more than one instance under your Excellency's notice, of a criminal attempt, on the part of persons in the higher walks of life, to reduce free negroes to slavery, and I therefore beg to represent to your Excellency the urgency of instituting a searching inquiry into all the circumstances connected with it, with the view of bringing those who may have offended so grievously against the law to condign punishment. I consider likewise that this inquiry ought to extend to the conduct of the authorities who did not cause the child to be delivered up to her mother.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 104.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing a translation of a note dated the 8th instant, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, in reply to mine of the 3rd of March last, on the subject of the liberated Africans, of which a copy was transmitted in my despatch of the 13th of the same month.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Limpo de Abreo evades my question concerning the appropriation of the accumulated produce of the wages of the free Africans let out to private individuals, and that his answers on other points are not satisfactory.

I have not, however, in the note which I have this day addressed to his Excellency, and of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, entered into a detailed discussion of his observations; but I have confined myself, with a view to promote the emancipation of the free Africans in the public offices and establishments, to making some remarks upon his sixth observation, that they are not comprised in the Imperial Decree of the 28th December, 1853, as regards exemption from service, they being bound even after the fourteen years, up to the time of re-exportation, earning, however, after that term a certain amount of wages.

I regret to have to observe that the Brazilian Government do not appear to be as much inclined to do justice to the large body of so-called liberated Africans, as they are to prevent the importation of fresh Africans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 104.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., duly received the note which, on the 3rd of March last, Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to him, and in which

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he renews the subject of his note of the 13th of January last, and makes some fresh observations on the contents of the note of the Undersigned of the 3rd of February.

The Undersigned, taking into consideration all the observations made by Mr. Howard in his above-mentioned note, which he does not think it necessary to reproduce, has the honour to submit, in reply :

1st. That although the term "emancipation" may be taken as synonymous with "liberty," and in a different sense from that in which it was used in the Decree of the 28th of December last, that given to it in the Decree, is, however, the juridical one—the one intended to be given to it by the Imperial Government; and not only founded on analogy with orphans, but also on the agreement of that Decree with the instructions of the 29th of October, 1834, and the 19th of November, 1835, under which the liberty of imported Africans was recognised and declared from the moment of importation. Emancipation, in the sense in which this word is used in the Decree of the 28th of December, is not synonymous with liberty; it merely signifies that the Africans, otherwise free, may withdraw from under the authority of those to whom their services had been confided.

2nd. That the emancipation which the said Decree establishes within the term and under the conditions laid down, does not do away with the idea of re-exportation, the residence in assigned places being rather a preparatory measure for that end, which the Imperial Government does not lose sight of.

3rd. That as regards the analogy between the Alvará of the 25th of January, 1818, and the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, which was invoked by the Imperial Government in justification of the term of fourteen years for the emancipation of free Africans, upon which point Mr. Howard observes that that Alvará contained a clause which was omitted in the Decree, which was, that the term of fourteen years would be reduced by two or more years in favour of those Africans who, through merit and good conduct, should be worthy of enjoying before the term the full right of their liberty, the Undersigned has to remark that that omission does not destroy the analogy based on the general rule of that Alvará, and that, although not mentioned in the Decree, it is, notwithstanding, not beyond the power of the Imperial Government to confer that favour on such Africans as are worthy of it.

4th. That the instructions of the 29th of October, 1834, and the 19th of November, 1835, did not prescribe a fixed term for the duration of service: they bound the party who farmed them to deliver the Africans, either for re-exportation, or when it was found that they did not fulfil their contract; so that, on the contrary, and exclusively of these two circumstances, the services might be permanent and for life, were it not for the provision of the Decree, which fixed the term of fourteen years.

5th. That notwithstanding the term fixed by the said Decree, the two circumstances referred to were not annulled thereby, and the farmers are still bound to deliver the Africans before the term of fourteen years, either for the purpose of re-exportation, or when the farmers do not fulfil the conditions of the contract.

6th. That the free Africans employed in the public offices and establishments are not comprised in the Decree of the 28th of December as regards exemption of service, they being bound, even after the fourteen years, up to the time of re-exportation, earning, however, after that term, a certain amount of wages to be awarded to them.

7th. That the Imperial Government, for the reasons stated in the note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to Mr. Howard on the 3rd of February of this year, cannot dispense with the form of a petition being made by the Africans, either by themselves or through their Curator, in order that their emancipation shall take place; and that for those reasons it continues to consider that that form is necessary, repeating, however, the assurance that the Decree in question shall not be eluded in consequence of it.

Finally, that the case of the African Claudio, which Mr. Howard produces as a ground for his apprehensions, does not appear to be a case

in point, seeing that it is anterior to the Decree, and that it relates to re-exportation, and not to emancipation.

The Undersigned, in thus replying to Mr. Howard's note above mentioned, avails, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 104.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 8th instant, in answer to mine of the 3rd of March last, on the question of the emancipation of the liberated Africans, and to inform you that I will transmit a copy of it for the information of Her Majesty's Government, whose approval of the first note which I addressed, on the 13th of January last, to your Excellency on that subject, has been already signified to me.

Without entering into a discussion concerning the major part of your Excellency's remarks, which would entail repetitions on my part, I cannot but notice your sixth remark, "that the free Africans employed in the public offices and establishments are not comprised in the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, as regards exemption of service, they being bound, even after the fourteen years, up to the time of reexportation, earning, however, after that term, a certain amount of wages to be awarded to them."

With regard to this remark I beg to observe, that the 5th Article of the Alva á of the 26th of January, 1818, prescribed for these Africans likewise the term of fourteen years' service, with the abatement to which I referred in my note of the 3rd of March, and which is admitted by your Excellency still to hold good; that although the idea of reexportation is, as you state in your last note, not lost sight of, yet that measure is now indefinitely postponed; that, consequently, for a great part of the liberated Africans employed in the public offices there is no prospect of their complete emancipation; that they will therefore enjoy a less degree of liberty than those hired out to private individuals whenever the measure affecting them may be entirely carried out; that the 7th Article of the regulation for the Mixed Commissions, annexed to the Additional Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, whilst providing that the slaves receiving certificates of emancipation from the Mixed Commission should be delivered over to the Government on whose territory the Commission which shall have emancipated them shall be established, to be employed as servants or free labourers, adds the words, "each of the two Governments binds itself to guarantee the liberty of such portion of these individuals as shall be respectively consigned to it." Now, it certainly could not have been the intention of the Contracting Parties to prolong the period of service of the Africans consigned to them to the extent to which that of the negroes employed in the public offices in Brazil has been, and it appears will still be, protracted. That such has not been the course followed by the British Government is well known to your Excellency.

Under the circumstances, that the greater part, no doubt, of the Africans so employed were liberated by the Mixed Commission. I consider that I am authorized in interesting myself in their fate, and more particularly in the emancipation of those amongst them who were captured by British cruizers and delivered over to the Brazilian authorities.

Your Excellency alleges that the case of the African, Claudio, which I cited in my note of the 3rd of March, does not appear to be a case in point, seeing that it is anterior to the Decrees of 1853, and that it relates to reexportation and not emancipation. If so, it may be asked why he was not furnished with pecuniary assistance to enable him to leave the country.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

The Chevalier de Macedo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 28.)

Légation Impériale du Brésil,

Londres, le 27 Juin, 1854.

My Lord,

JE viens de lire, avec douleur et surprise, dans les journaux de ce matin, l'extrait des discours prononcés à la Chambre des Communes par Lord John Russell et Lord Palmerston en réponse aux opinions exprimées par Mr. Milner Gibson et Mr. Bright à l'égard de l'opportunité et justice de révoquer le Bill connu sous le titre de "Brazilian Slave Trade Act of 1845." C'est surtout contre certaines assertions de Lord Palmerston que je dois protester.

Il est inutile de revenir à la question du droit que pouvait avoir le Gouvernement Anglais de passer cet Act. La discussion sur ce point sera toujours interminable ; mais le jugement des autorités les plus compétentes a été dès l'origine prononcé en faveur du Brésil. Ces autorités sont :—

1. Lord Aberdeen et le Duc de Wellington, qui ont combattu et même protesté après son adoption contre une semblable mesure, basée sur les mêmes prétentions, et en circonstances identiques, proposée au Parlement en 1839 contre le Portugal.

2. L'éminent jurisconsulte Anglais, et depuis Chancelier du Royaume, Lord Truro, qui a combattu le Bill, en 1845, à la Chambre des Communes.

3. Enfin la Suprême Cour d'Appel, composée des quinze Grands Juges de l'Angleterre, réunis à Westminster, laquelle, dans le cas de l'équipage la "*Felicidade*," en 1845, a nié aux autorités Anglaises le droit de visiter et capturer les bâtiments Brésiliens se livrant à la Traite des Nègres.

Laissant donc à ce Bill de 1845 son caractère d'un expédient politique accepté par Lord Aberdeen contre ses principes et à son grand regret, je commencerai par relever l'erreur dans laquelle se trouvent Lord Palmerston et Lord John Russell quand ils croient que, dans les circonstances présentes, le Gouvernement Britannique peut le laisser subsister sans manquer à ses engagements. Dans la dépêche adressée au Ministre Britannique à Rio par Lord Aberdeen, datée du 2 Juillet, 1845, destinée à être montrée au Gouvernement de Brésil et publiée par ordre du Parlement, on trouve l'engagement suivant :—

"They (Her Majesty's Government) will be ready, so soon as any measures of the Brazilian Government shall enable them to do so, to recommend to Parliament to repeal the Bill now about to be brought forward ; but whilst the present state of things continues, and until either the Slave Trade of Brazil shall have entirely ceased, or the Brazilian Government shall have entered into an engagement with Great Britain jointly to carry into execution the declared intentions of the parties to the Convention of 1826, that course will not be open to them."

Il n'y a pas le moindre doute que les conditions de cette promesse ne se soient vérifiées. Et dans une chose aussi délicate il n'est pas permis de croire qu'on ait le droit d'étendre le "so soon as" de cette dépêche à une période encore indéfiniment éloignée. La cause alléguée pour adopter ce Bill, c'est-à-dire, la continuation de la Traite par contrebande en large échelle, a cessé d'exister. La contrebande ne se fait plus absolument depuis près de deux ans, et depuis quatre qu'elle était déjà descendue à des proportions comparativement insignifiantes.

Lord John Russell a dit qu'aucune disposition de Traité ne pourrait remplacer le Bill ; cependant il faut répéter qu'un Traité créerait des droits, le Bill n'est basé que sur celui de la force. C'est un état de choses odieux, et qui le devient davantage dès que la cause alléguée pour user de ce droit de la force a disparu.

Lord Palmerston, aussi bien que Lord John Russell, ont attribué la cessation de la Traite au Brésil à ce Bill de 1845 ; cependant l'effet de ce Bill a été justement le contraire ; la Traite a triplé de force après son adoption. C'est-à-dire, que le nombre de nègres importés par contrebande au Brésil, qui, dans les années précédentes, montait à peine à 20,000, immédiatement après le Bill a monté, en 1846, à 50,000 ; en 1847, à 56,000 ; en

1848, à 60,000, et en 1849 à 54,000. La raison en est simple. Il n'est possible de reprimer la Traite que par l'action des autorités Brésiliennes. Les croiseurs Anglais ont de tout temps été impuissants. Le Bill était toute force et tout prestige à celles des autorités Brésiliennes, qui, bravant le torrent de l'opinion, cherchaient à s'opposer à la Traite.

L'étendue du mal elle-même a produit son remède en faisant naître une juste terreur des conséquences qu'à l'avenir préparait un tel état de choses. C'est ainsi qu'une réaction s'est montrée dans l'opinion publique, et qu'une mesure législative efficace pour réprimer la Traite a été proposée aux Chambres dès la session de 1848. A la fin de cette année un Ministère nouveau se formait adoptant comme programme de sa politique, entre autres mesures, celle de la répression efficace de la Traite. Une dissolution de la Chambre a fait que la session de 1849 n'a commencé qu'en Janvier 1850. Les Ministres de la Justice et des Affaires Etrangères ont tout de suite à l'ouverture des Chambres sollicité la prompt adoption des mesures législatives nécessaires. La défaveur contre la Traite a été augmentée par l'apparition de la fièvre jaune importée à Bahia par un bâtiment négrier.

Si donc ce Bill a eu quelque part à l'abolition effective de la Traite, c'était indirectement en la faisant gagner les plus larges proportions qu'elle avait jamais atteintes.

C'est donc un fait avoué et constaté que la contrebande malheureusement se faisait en grand, que le Gouvernement et les magistrats étaient impuissants à réprimer ce que tout le monde favorisait et qu'une fatale erreur croyait convenable au pays.

La Traite des Nègres n'est pas le crime des Portugais ou des Brésiliens seuls. Toutes les nations Chrétiennes de l'Europe qui ont fondé des Colonies en Amérique ont commis le même péché. La Grande Bretagne ne l'a cessé qu'en 1807, c'est-à-dire, longtemps après avoir perdu sa plus riche colonie à esclaves. Le Brésil n'a pas été le dernier, mais un des derniers à suivre son exemple ; mais il faut bien peser ceci,—le Brésil en toute chose s'est montré lent dans sa marche, mais elle a toujours été sûre, et il n'a jamais reculé.

Il est permis de croire que laissé à lui seul sans aucune pression étrangère, l'abolition de la Traite viendrait d'elle-même comme est venue la liberté de la presse, le jury, le Gouvernement représentatif, la tolérance religieuse, et tant d'autres bienfaits d'une civilisation avancée. Dès 1823 l'abolition de la Traite avait été proposée à l'Assemblée Constituante.

Le Gouvernement du Brésil est connu par sa scrupuleuse exactitude à remplir ses engagements. Dans tous les pays cependant les Gouvernements sont obligés de se courber devant l'opinion, et celle-ci n'est pas toujours éclairée ni juste. A Lord Palmerston et à Lord John Russell eux-mêmes, tout dernièrement encore, le Parlement d'une nation qui contient 8,000,000 de Catholiques leur a refusé quelques livres sterlings pour donner dans les prisons les consolations et exhortations religieuses aux Catholiques.

Je passe à présent aux plus graves méprises de Lord Palmerston.

N'ayant plus rien à dire du discours de Lord John Russell, je dois manifester ma reconnaissance à la manière dont il s'est exprimé, selon ce que m'a rapporté une personne présente, sur les rapports que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir avec lui dans son passage très court au Foreign Office.

Lord Palmerston croit que le Bill de 1845 n'a été mis en exécution qu'en 1850 ; il se trompe. L'effet du Bill était uniquement d'autoriser la visite et capture des négriers sous pavillon Brésilien et de les soumettre au jugement des tribunaux Anglais de l'Amirauté et il a été mis immédiatement en exécution. En 1850 Lord Palmerston étant Ministre des Affaires Etrangères a ordonné que cette visite et capture fût faite même dans les eaux du Brésil. Ces ordres ont alors commencé à être exécutés avec une violence inouïe.

Le Gouvernement du Brésil a montré au Ministre Anglais que dans ce moment il était lui-même engagé à mettre sérieusement une fin à la Traite et qu'il n'obtiendrait pas les mesures nécessaires du Corps Législatif si ces violences continuaient : c'est alors que le Ministre et l'Amiral

Anglais consentirent, le 13 Juillet, à les suspendre. Lord Palmerston faisant allusion à cette suspension, a dit au Parlement : "The Slave Trade revived instantly, and for three or four months went on just as bad as before. This led to a remonstrance from our Minister, and a threat to put the Act in force." Evidemment la mémoire a failli au noble Lord, ou il a lu la note de Mr. Hudson au Gouvernement Brésilien datée du 11 Janvier, 1851, sans lire la réponse et sans examiner les faits. La suspension des violences a été accordée le 13 Juillet; le 4 Septembre une loi, dont les effets ont constaté la sagesse et la portée, avait passé dans les deux Chambres et était sanctionnée par l'Empereur; le 14 Octobre une Ordonnance Réglementaire du Gouvernement était publiée, des instructions étaient envoyées aux autorités chargées de son exécution, un choix convenable de ces autorités avait eu lieu, et l'application de ces mesures se faisait sentir. Aucune n'aurait pu être prise sous l'influence des violences des croiseurs Anglais.

Il est vrai que Mr. Hudson a adressé, le 11 Janvier, 1851, une note au Gouvernement Brésilien se plaignant de certains faits et déclarant qu'il ne continuait plus la suspension des violences. Le Ministre Brésilien lui a répondu montrant que plusieurs des faits dont il se plaignait étaient exagérés ou controuvés, que d'autres étaient antérieurs au 13 Juillet, d'autres absolument imaginaires, d'autres antérieurs à l'époque dans laquelle la loi nouvelle aurait pu recevoir son exécution dans les provinces; enfin, le Ministre montrait par chiffres significatifs sa bonne foi et les heureux résultats de ses efforts.

Dans les six mois de 1850, pendant lesquelles la suspension des violences des croiseurs avait eu lieu, le nombre des nègres débarqués par contrebande ne montait qu'à 5,000, tandis que dans les mois correspondants de 1847, ce nombre avait été de 24,000; dans ceux de 1848 de 27,000; dans ceux de 1849 de 23,000. Enfin que par les diligences des croiseurs et des autorités Brésiliennes, 1,200 Africains avaient été saisis et avaient reçu la liberté.

Ainsi rien au monde n'est plus incorrect que l'assertion échappée à Lord Palmerston, que j'ai plus haut citée textuellement.

Il est consolant d'ajouter qu'en 1851, le nombre total des nègres débarqués par contrebande a encore diminué et n'est monté qu'à 3,000. En vue de ces résultats le Ministère de Lord Derby et de Lord Malmesbury a dès le commencement de 1852 défendu aux croiseurs Anglais de faire des visites et des captures de bâtiments Brésiliens dans les eaux de l'Empire.

La répression a continué cependant à être faite par les croiseurs et les autorités Brésiliennes. En 1852 le nombre des nègres débarqués n'a pas excédé 700, et depuis Novembre 1852 jusqu'aux dernières nouvelles pas un seul débarquement de nègres n'a eu lieu sur les côtes du Brésil.

Depuis un certain temps le Bill de 1845 n'a reçu aucune application, parce que les croiseurs Anglais n'ont pu prendre aucun bâtiment négrier couvert avec les couleurs du Brésil : mais le Bill est encore en vigueur. Ce Bill est une offense aux droits du Brésil et n'a aucune autre base que la force. Le Gouvernement du Brésil a protesté contre son adoption et déclaré en toute occasion qu'il le considère comme un acte de guerre. Ne pouvant pas opposer la force à la force ouvertement, le Gouvernement Brésilien n'a jamais essayé d'employer des moyens d'hostilité qui pourraient atteindre le commerce et les intérêts des particuliers.

Cependant les négociants et fabricants Anglais sont toujours alarmés de cet état désagréable et délicat où se trouvent les rapports des deux Gouvernements. Je vois que quand les représentants des grands centres manufacturiers et commerçants de l'Angleterre montrent leurs inquiétudes dans le Parlement, les Ministres de Sa Majesté Britannique s'empressent de déclarer que leurs relations avec le Brésil sont très amicales.

Il paraît donc qu'une politique qui attend tout de la justice et de la générosité d'une nation forte et glorieuse n'est pas celle qui obtient le plus de succès, et que si au lieu de modifier ses tarifs de douane d'une manière favorable à la consommation des marchandises Anglaises, si au lieu de diminuer de deux-tiers les droits d'ancrage et abolir tout droit différentiel sur la navigation, si au lieu d'accorder ce que le Gouvernement Britan-

nique demandait à l'égard des biens des Anglais morts *ab intestat*, si au lieu de concourir avec les vues du Gouvernement Britannique dans les rapports politiques avec d'autres pays, le Brésil avait adopté un système tout opposé, il aurait la chance de mettre de plus forts intérêts de son côté.

Il y a enfin dans le discours de Lord Palmerston des propositions qui me paraissent non seulement injustes mais impropres de ces relations amicales qui malgré tout subsistent encore entre les deux Gouvernements: "The Brazilian Government was composed of persons favourable to the Slave Trade." C'est au Ministère qui a eu la gloire de finir avec la Traite que ces paroles paraissent s'appliquer. Je dirai même que les rapports que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir toujours avec le noble Lord dès mon arrivée en ce pays, que les informations qu'il a reçues de moi avec plaisir et une partie desquelles il a reproduit dans son discours, m'ont toujours fait attendre de sa part des sentiments plus bienveillants et plus justes envers le Gouvernement que j'ai l'honneur de représenter.

Il se peut cependant, et on me l'a assuré, que le rapport fait par les journaux d'un débat qui a eu lieu après minuit contienne beaucoup d'inexactitudes et j'espère que de ce nombre soient plusieurs des propositions que je viens de combattre.

Il me reste, my Lord, une grâce à demander que j'espère vous m'accorderez, et est celle de donner à cette réponse, que mon devoir m'impose de faire aux deux savans et honorables Ministres, la même publicité qu'ont reçue leurs assertions.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) S. DE MACEDO.

No. 106.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of May,* reporting that you had communicated to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs a copy of the Portaria inclosed in my despatch of the 22nd of March last, ordering the expulsion from Angola of the Brazilian slave-dealer Francisco Antonio Flores; and I have to acquaint you that I approve of the note which you addressed to Senhor de Abreo on the 8th of May, calling his Excellency's attention to the recent arrival in Rio de Janeiro of the notorious slave-dealer Jacintho Derizanz.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 107.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th May,† with its inclosures, on the subject of the schooner which was expected to arrive with a cargo of slaves on the coast of Rio Grande do Sul; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve the letter which you addressed to Senhor de Abreo on the 8th of May, and also your letter of the 6th of May to Rear-Admiral Henderson upon this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 108.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of May,* inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 5th of May, respecting an advertisement offering for sale or hire an African negress, from 18 to 20 years of age, and who must therefore have been introduced into Brazil since the year 1831, in contravention of the Treaty of 1826, between Great Britain and Brazil, and in violation of Brazilian law; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having called the attention of Senhor de Abreo to this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 109.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 3, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of May,† inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 10th of May, on the subject of an attempt made by Senhor Soares, a merchant of Rio de Janeiro, to reduce to slavery the child of a free negress who had been in his service; and I have in reply to express to you my approval of your note to Senhor Limpo de Abreo on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 110.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th of May, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the Africans in Brazil who were emancipated by the late British and Brazilian Court of Mixed Commission at Rio de Janeiro; and I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve the note which you addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo on the 15th of May.

You will inform Senhor de Abreo that Her Majesty's Government approve the observations contained in your note in question, respecting the condition of the emancipated Africans; and you will state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government take the strongest interest in the fate of this unfortunate class of persons, and feel bound to secure for them all the protection and privileges to which they are entitled.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 111.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of despatches‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hamburg, respecting a Brazilian vessel called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which arrived at

* No. 102.

† No. 103.

‡ Nos. 241 and 242.

Bremen in April last, for the purpose of being fitted out in that port as a slaver. You will perceive, however, from the inclosed despatches, that the master of this vessel was compelled, by the opposition of the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburg, to desist from his nefarious pursuit, and that he finally sold the vessel on the 27th ultimo to a Bremen merchant.

I have to instruct you to express to the Brazilian Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the zeal and vigilance displayed by the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburg in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 112.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Chevalier de Macedo.

M. le Chevalier,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, referring to a debate which took place in the House of Commons on the previous day, respecting the Act of Parliament of 1845 relative to the Brazilian Slave Trade, and complaining that in the course of that debate Lord John Russell and Viscount Palmerston attributed the late cessation of that Traffic in Brazil to the operation of the Act in question.

I beg to observe to you in reply, that although the Brazilian Government are entitled to full credit for the praiseworthy exertions which they have made since 1851, for the suppression of the African Slave Trade; and although it would be much more agreeable to me to dwell exclusively upon what has been accomplished by Brazil in the last two years, and to pass over the painful records showing the course pursued during the previous twenty-six years in regard to the engagements which Brazil contracted towards Great Britain by the Treaty of the 23rd of November, 1826; yet I feel bound to express my sincere conviction that the existence of the Act of 1845, and more particularly its stringent enforcement in the year 1850, contributed materially to bring about the present improved state of affairs.

With regard to this point, I am able to appeal to the testimony of a distinguished Brazilian Minister, who took a prominent part in the discussions upon these latter transactions,—I mean Senhor Paulino de Souza, whose statement as to the salutary effect produced by the exertions of the British cruizers even in 1850, will be found in the accompanying report of a conversation which the late Mr. Southern had with his Excellency in 1852.

I have likewise to call your attention to the fact, that during the present year the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, of three expected arrivals of African slaves on the coast of Brazil. These communications were of course made to Mr. Howard, in order that he might apply to the British Naval Commanders on the station to afford their cooperation in preventing these apprehended violations of Treaty and Brazilian law; and it appears to me that if Her Majesty's Government were to propose to Parliament to repeal the Act of 1845, they would incur a serious responsibility, and wantonly deprive themselves of the means of effectually assisting the Brazilian Government with their support and countenance in counteracting the plots of the slave-dealers whose activity on the coast of Africa has of late been very much increased.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 112

Mr. Southern to the Earl of Malmesbury.

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 10, 1852.

WITH reference to the statement which has been made by the Brazilian Government, that the summary proceedings of the British cruizers had rather retarded than aided in the suppression of the Slave Trade on this coast, I think it right to report to your Lordship that in a conversation I had lately with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, his Excellency stated to me that he and his colleagues had found it vain to argue with their countrymen—slave-holders, buyers, and sellers—on grounds of philanthropy or political economy; that the line of argument the Ministry had used and found most efficient was this:—You see the number of years that the forces of the British Government have been directed towards the suppression of the Slave Trade; the treasures it has lavished on the means of intercepting that Traffic. We ourselves know by experience that no consideration holds it back when there is a question of the Slave Trade; and now that it appears resolved to put down the Slave Trade, and is proceeding with more vigour than ever, can we suppose that it will draw back? And if this state of things continues, what can come of it but war? And if we go to war with England, what will become of the capitalists, agriculturists, and merchants of Brazil?

His Excellency distinctly stated to me, that by such arguments as these, used in the very moment of the application of the strongest measures of the British cruizers against the Brazilian slave-traders, he and his colleagues had prevailed upon influential persons to support, or at least not to oppose, the Government in cooperating with the agents of Great Britain in their determined persecution of this inhuman commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY SOUTHERN.

No. 113.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter which was addressed to me on the 27th ultimo by the Chevalier de Macedo, Brazilian Minister at this Court, complaining of certain expressions made use of by Lord John Russell and by Viscount Palmerston in the House of Commons on the 26th ultimo, in speaking of the past conduct of the Brazilian Government with regard to the Slave Trade; together with a copy of the reply which I returned to M. de Macedo on the 6th instant.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 114.

The Chevalier de Macedo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

*Légation Imperiale du Brésil,
Londres, le 7 Juillet, 1854.*

J'AI reçu la lettre dont vous m'avez honoré datée d'hier, en réponse à la mienne du 27 du mois dernier.

Vous avez bien voulu prendre en considération une des observations que j'avais eu l'honneur de vous présenter, mais plusieurs autres paraissent n'avoir pas frappé votre attention et je suis obligé de revenir sur elles, malgré ma répugnance à trop impiéter sur votre temps.

D'après ce que le Lord Président du Conseil et le Secrétaire d'Etat du Département de l'Intérieur avaient dit à la Chambre des Communes, le Bill de 1845 paraît accepté par le Gouvernement du Brésil et j'avais prié votre Excellence d'éviter que le Parlement puisse délibérer sous cette impression. Ce Bill a toujours été considéré par le Gouvernement Impérial comme une agression, comme un acte de guerre. Si dans le temps le Gouvernement Britannique avait un motif pour la faire (ce que le Gouvernement Impérial n'admet pas), ce motif, au dire de tous et dans l'opinion de tous, a cessé. La condition marquée par Lord Aberdeen pour révoquer le Bill est réalisée. La continuation du Bill aujourd'hui n'est donc basée ni sur le droit, ni sur la nécessité, ni sur la politique. Elle est en opposition aux promesses faites au Brésil et aux conditions sous lesquelles le Parlement a adopté le Bill. Cependant le langage tenu devant le Parlement et resté sans réponse ne lui donne pas ce caractère.

Lord Palmerston a dit au Parlement que le Bill n'avait reçu d'exécution qu'en 1850; ceci est une confusion des effets du Bill avec certains ordres émanés de Lord Palmerston lui-même. Il faut que le Parlement ne reste pas sous cette impression erronée.

Lord Palmerston a dit encore qu'aussitôt qu'en Juillet 1850 le Bill a été suspendu par le Ministre et l'Amiral Britanniques (il voulait parler de ses ordres violents) la Traite a recommencé à se faire par contrebande avec la même force qu'auparavant. J'ai eu l'honneur de montrer par des chiffres et par des faits que le noble Lord s'est trompé.

Je dois encore rectifier un point comparativement de peu d'importance. Votre Excellence ainsi que Lord Palmerston datent l'abolition légale de la Traite au Brésil de la signature du Traité de 1826; ce n'est pas exact: le Traité stipulait que la Traite devait cesser en 1830. Elle a donc duré par contrebande vingt-et-un et non pas vingt-six ans.

Le Parlement, en règle générale, ne prend pas la responsabilité des relations diplomatiques; ce qui se passe dans des pays éloignés lui mérite peu d'attention; les discussions d'une autre Parlement sont oubliés facilement; c'est l'induire en erreur que de lui laisser ignorer le véritable état des relations avec le Brésil par rapport à ces questions.

Les grands juges de l'Angleterre ont déclaré en 1845 dans le procès de l'équipage de la "*Felicidade*" que les croiseurs Anglais n'ayant aucun droit de saisir des bâtiments Brésiliens, les victimes d'une telle saisie, en résistant par le meurtre, usaient de leur droit de légitime défense et ne pouvaient pas être punies. Ainsi le Parlement fait une loi contre laquelle le pouvoir judiciaire déclare qu'on a le droit de résister.

Cet état de choses, my Lord, est par trop odieux et insoutenable. Cependant c'est ce que les Ministres de Sa Majesté Britannique déclarent préférable à toute stipulation de Traité!

J'arrive à présent, my Lord, au seul point sur lequel vous avez bien voulu me répondre. Le Gouvernement du Brésil a toujours soutenu et prouvé par les faits que ce ne sont ni les croiseurs Anglais, ni les tribunaux de l'Amirauté par conséquent, ni le Bill de 1845, ni les violences de 1850, qui ont mis fin à la Traite. Votre Excellence me dit, en réponse, que ces violences et ce Bill seuls ont décidé le Gouvernement Impérial à prendre les mesures qu'il a prises. En appui de cette assertion vous me présentez une lettre de Mr. Southern référant une conversation avec le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, le Sénateur Paulino de Souza, dans laquelle Mr. Southern assure que ce Ministre lui a dit que l'argument tiré de l'attitude de la Grande Bretagne seul était efficace pour convaincre les possesseurs, vendeurs et acheteurs de nègres de la nécessité d'abolir la Traite.

Quoique plus généralisé qu'il ne devait être, le rapport de Mr. Southern n'infirme en rien mon argumentation.

Les uns sont opposés à la Traite et même à l'esclavage par scrupules religieux; les autres par principe de philanthropie et charité; les autres par des considérations politiques de nationalité et organisation sociale.

Les uns ont de l'inquiétude à l'égard de la sécurité intérieure et extérieure du pays ; les autres reculent devant la réprobation universelle ; les autres tiennent pour sacré tout engagement pris sur la foi nationale ; les autres enfin sont impressionnés par la crainte des effets de l'inimitié d'une nation puissante qui en réclamant l'exécution d'un Traité est dans son droit.

Tout le monde conviendra sans peine que les arguments basés sur des considérations religieuses, morales, politiques et économiques trouvent toujours une réponse. Ce n'est pas la même chose pour les faits.

L'appréciation des forces relatives des deux pays est aisée ; la décision de la Grande Bretagne était manifestée par les actes ; l'étendue du mal qu'elle pouvait faire était facile à apprécier. Ceux donc qui n'étaient pas convaincus déjà par les autres arguments ont pu l'être par ces faits. Voilà ce que le Ministre Brésilien a dit à Mr. Southern. Ceci ne se trouve nullement en opposition avec l'allégation toujours faite par nous, que les violences Anglaises servaient pour donner aux négriers l'apparence (qu'ils savaient bien exploiter) de victimes de leur dévouement aux intérêts agricoles du Brésil. C'est très vrai que des hommes opposés en principe à la Traite croyaient qu'on ne devait pas céder à la pression étrangère. Ceci était une des plus grandes difficultés du Gouvernement Brésilien, et ce qui a le plus retardé le revirement de l'opinion publique prononcée si tard contre ce Trafique.

En admettant même que le Bill de 1845, et les ordres violents de 1850, considérés comme des actes de guerre, ont eu pour effet de décider ou de rendre possible la marche du Gouvernement Brésilien (ce qu'il n'admet pas tout-à-fait), s'ils ont pu procurer de nouveaux partisans à la cause de l'abolition de la Traite, ils ont déjà fait leur temps, ont produit ce qu'ils devaient produire. Dès qu'il n'y a plus de motif de guerre, ni de pression à exercer, le Bill doit être révoqué, comme l'ont été les ordres violents de 1850.

L'existence de ce Bill ne sert donc plus que pour continuer le mal qu'il a fait au commencement, c'est-à-dire, de donner de la popularité aux négriers et de faire considérer l'abolition de la Traite comme l'affaire des Anglais. On disait dans le temps, Ce n'est pas à la Traite qu'ils en veulent ; leur but est de détruire la marine marchande Brésilienne et d'intervenir dans les affaires intérieures du pays. La continuation du Bill donne l'apparence de vérité à cette accusation.

Il n'y a pas de doute que la Traite peut revivre si la surveillance des Gouvernements diminue. Cette surveillance sera plus efficace si elle a pour base la bonne intelligence entre les deux Gouvernements. J'ai des pleins pouvoirs et je suis prêt à signer un Traité pour établir cette bonne intelligence, mais je dois perdre l'espoir de tomber d'accord avec le Gouvernement Britannique si les Ministres de Sa Majesté Britannique croient que l'état actuel des choses est préférable à un Traité.

Je ne puis que m'étonner, my Lord, de vous voir tourner en argument contre le Brésil ce qui devait être pris comme une preuve éclatante de la bonne foi du Gouvernement et de son désir de marcher d'accord avec la Grande Bretagne. Celle-ci a des Traités réglant le droit de visite avec presque toutes les nations commerçantes. Les négriers se couvrent de tous les pavillons comme ils appartiennent à tous les pays. Le Gouvernement du Brésil s'empresse d'avertir les autorités Britanniques des manœuvres des négriers qu'il découvre pour que dans la part qui leur revient elles tâchent de les empêcher de réussir. La conclusion que votre Excellence tire de cette manière d'agir c'est que sans l'état violent et odieux créé par le Bill, la Grande Bretagne serait privée des moyens d'aider le Gouvernement du Brésil à contrecarrer ces manœuvres ! Voilà une manière de raisonner qui aurait pu me faire perdre tout espoir d'obtenir justice, si je n'avais pas tant de confiance dans celle de la cause que je plaide, et dans la loyauté du Gouvernement Britannique.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) S. DE MACEDO.

No. 115.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith a translation of that part of the report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to the Legislature, dated the 13th instant, which relates to the Slave Trade, together with a list of the documents thereto annexed.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Limpo de Abreo enters at some length into several of the transactions which have taken place between the Brazilian Government and Her Majesty's Legation at this Court, relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and relates the fruitless endeavours which the Imperial Government have made to induce Her Majesty's Government to repeal the British Acts of Parliament of the years 1839 and 1845, and to abandon the right of search of Brazilian merchant-vessels on the high seas.

I have likewise the honour to inclose a translation of that part of the report of the Minister of Justice, Senhor Nabuco de Araujo, to the Legislature, dated the 15th instant, which relates to the Slave Trade. The language employed in this report, in respect to the necessity of the vigorous suppression of the Slave Trade, is equally satisfactory with that held by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Your Lordship will observe that Senhor Nabuco de Araujo states that it would be erroneous to suppose that the Slave Trade is completely extinguished in this country, seeing the attempts which have been made to carry it on.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 115.

Extract from the Report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Legislature, May 13, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Imperial Government has employed all the means in its power, and all the legal resources at its disposal, to prevent the reappearance of the Slave Trade; and in this object it has had the zealous cooperation of the authorities of the Empire.

The notorious fact of not a single landing of Africans, since December 1852, is due to the active vigilance and efforts of those authorities.

Our Agents, in countries which the slave-traders have endeavoured to select as a theatre for their infamous machinations, have exercised an equal vigilance, and have prevented, in concert with the British authorities, any attempt at the continuation of the Slave Trade.

This result is extremely satisfactory; and if it is not impossible that some case of importation should take place on one point or other of our extensive coast, where, notwithstanding the well-combined measures adopted, that crime cannot always be prevented, it can be asserted that such an event will not fail to be followed by the most energetic measures for the punishment of whoever may have taken part in it, and for the apprehension and full liberation of the Africans.

Various indications have come to the knowledge of the Imperial Government of a continuance of these nefarious speculations; but the danger to which they are exposed in the Empire has made them take another direction.

The Government learned that two vessels were being prepared at Monte Video, apparently destined for the illicit Slave Trade.

Our authorities there and at Buenos Ayres were on the alert, and have not spared any efforts to frustrate these and any similar attempts.

Intelligence having been received here that a Portuguese vessel, called

the "*Laura*," (formerly "*Rosa*,") suspected of being destined for the Slave Trade, had touched at the Islands of Terceira and Madeira from Lisbon, this Office immediately addressed the Department of Justice, and issued circulars to the Presidents of the maritime Provinces to cause the utmost vigilance of the respective authorities to be directed to that vessel.

It had been stated that Portuguese vessels and others cleared out of the port of Bahia, partly laden with rum and tobacco, and having beneath their cargo water-casks and other articles destined for the Slave Trade: orders were immediately sent to the President of that Province to cause the minutest investigations to be made with a view of ascertaining the truth of that report.

From the minute investigations proceeded to by the President of Bahia, it turned out that nothing had taken place to justify the information given on the subject. The utmost vigilance was also recommended to him regarding the Sardinian schooner "*Iride*" and the Portuguese schooner "*Veloz*," on which suspicion likewise existed.

The Imperial Government learned, by communications which it received from Lisbon, that two Portuguese vessels, the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," had sailed from the Douro for the coast of Africa under strong suspicions of their being destined for the Slave Trade.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation subsequently transmitted to the Government the same intelligence, adding that there were reasons for believing that any opportunity would be taken advantage of for an attempt to land Africans on the coast of Brazil.

The Imperial Government considered it to be its duty to issue, with regard to these two vessels, repeated orders to the authorities along the coast of the Empire, in the event of those vessels approaching any point of the coast, to proceed at once to the apprehension of the Africans, and to render effective the responsibility of the captain, the mate, and all the crew, in conformity with the laws in force.

The Imperial Government lately received information that these vessels had actually gone to the coast of Africa to take in a cargo of negroes; but it was at the same time informed that they were destined, not for the ports of this Empire, but for the Havana.

The correspondence which passed with Her Britannic Majesty's Legation on all these subjects, appears from the documents in Annex B.

Many other measures have been adopted for rendering effectual the suppression of the Slave Trade.

All these circumstances, and the prompt measures which have been taken by the Imperial Government, must have convinced that of Her Britannic Majesty, how difficult it will be for the Slave Trade to be renewed in Brazil, and that conviction may be deduced from the manner in which that Government has acknowledged the honourable proceeding of the authorities of the country.

I regret, however, Gentlemen, to have to communicate to you the non-revocation, as yet, of the Acts of the British Parliament of 1839 and 1845, against the existence of which we have represented, and which so seriously offend our national honour.

The Imperial Government has called the most serious attention of the Imperial Legation in London to this matter, but its efforts have not as yet brought about a solution decorous to Brazil.

This question has also been treated at this Court with Her Britannic Majesty's Legation.

The following circumstance gave rise to the discussion :

The English brig of war "*Bonetta*," cruising off the coast of the Empire, visited off the Island of Marambaia, the national schooner "*Lagunense*" on its voyage to this port, and opened on that occasion an official letter sealed with the arms of the Empire, and addressed to the Administrator of the Outward Custom-house of this capital, and which contained the manifest of the schooner's cargo.

The Imperial Government addressed Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in consequence, protesting against such a proceeding, and demanding the necessary measures on the part of the Legation to prevent the recurrence of similar unjustifiable acts.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation declared, in reply to the demand of the Imperial Government, that the Admiral commanding the British Forces on this station had made known to it that he had ordered the officers in command of British cruisers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil, not to open in future any papers sealed with the official seal of a Brazilian authority, observing, however, that as the character and destination of Brazilian merchant-vessels, visited on suspicion of being engaged in the illicit Slave Trade, could only be judged of by means of the documents which shall be open and accessible to the visiting officer, the commanders of British cruisers cannot be held responsible for an inconvenient detention to which any vessel may be subjected, in consequence of the non-exhibition of documents, such as the manifest of the cargo, which shall be closed and sealed, and of which there shall be no copy or duplicate, properly authenticated, and open for examination.

Thus, Her Britannic Majesty's Government has not yet given up the exercise of the right of search on the high seas, against which Brazil has protested; but the Imperial Government trusts that the spirit of justice will ultimately influence the British Government.

A Project of Law commenced to be discussed last year in the Senate, extending the competency of the Auditors of Marine charged with the trial of Slave Trade offences under the Law of the 4th September, 1850, and the regulation issued for carrying it into execution. The occurrence which took place in December of last year, renders necessary the adoption of measures to prevent impunity in special cases which were not foreseen in those Acts.

List of Documents published in Annex B to the above Report.

Correspondence respecting two vessels said to be equipping at Monte Video for the Slave Trade. "

No. 1. DESPATCH from the Consul at St. Catherine's to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, dated 2nd August, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Jerningham's despatch of 11th August, 1853).

No. 2. Note from the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty to the Imperial Government, of 13th September, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Jerningham's despatch of 13th September, 1853).

Copy of Representation of Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Monte Video of 3rd September, 1853 (likewise inclosed).

No. 3. Note of the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 17th September, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Jerningham's despatch of 1st October, 1853).

Correspondence on the opening of the Manifest of the schooner "*Lagunense*," sealed with the Imperial arms, by the English brig "*Bonetta*."

No. 4. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 25th October, 1853.

Document referred to therein.

No. 5. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 28th October, 1853.

No. 6. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 3rd December, 1853.

Letter from the Admiral referred to therein.

(Nos. 4 to 6 inclusive were sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 3rd December, 1853.)

No. 7. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 11th December, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 14th December, 1853).

No. 8. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, 16th December, 1853.

No. 9. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 30th December, 1853 (Nos. 8 and 9 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 1st December, 1854).

Correspondence on the Portuguese vessel "*Laura*," formerly "*Rosa*," suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

No. 10. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 10th November, 1853.

Document referred to therein.

No. 11. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 17th November, 1853 (Nos. 10 and 11 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 19th November, 1853).

Correspondence on information that Portuguese and other vessels cleared out at Bahia, partly laden with rum and tobacco, having beneath articles for the Slave Trade.

No. 12. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 12th December, 1853.

No. 13. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 14th December, 1853.

No. 14. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 27th December, 1853.

(Nos. 12 to 14 inclusive sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th January, 1854.)

No. 15. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, 4th February, 1854.

Three inclosures (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 11th February, 1854).

No. 16. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 8th April, 1854 (see Mr. Howard's despatch of 10th April, 1854).

Correspondence on two Portuguese vessels, the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which left the Douro for the coast of Africa, to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

No. 17. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 21st January, 1854.

No. 18. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, 23rd January, 1854.

Circular referred to therein.

No. 19. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 27th January, 1854.

(Nos. 17 to 19 inclusive sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 12th February, 1854.)

No. 20. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, 11th April, 1854.

No. 21. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 13th April, 1854.

(Nos. 20 and 21 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th April, 1854.)

Project of Law for extending the competency of Auditors of Marine for trial of persons mentioned in Article III of Law of 4th September, 1850.

No. 22. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 10th January, 1854 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th January, 1854).

No. 23. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 11th January, 1854, acknowledging receipt of No. 22.

No. 116.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of that part of the report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to the Legislature, dated the 13th instant, which relates to the question of the emancipation of the free Africans, and to the correspondence exchanged between his Excellency and myself on that subject.

The documents annexed to this report will be seen from the list appended to the inclosure in this despatch.

My last note to Senhor de Abreo on the subject, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch to your Lordship of the 15th instant, the day on which it was written, being of a date posterior to the report, is not included in them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 116.

Extract from the Report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Legislature, May 13, 1854.

(Translation.)

ON occasion of the publication of the Decree No. 1,303 of the 28th of December of last year, by which His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to ordain that the free Africans who should have served private individuals for the space of fourteen years, should be emancipated on their petition, with the obligation, however, of residing in such places as should be designated by the Government, and of taking an occupation or service on being paid a salary, Her Britannic Majesty's Legation addressed itself to the Imperial Government, making some observations on the term fixed in the said Decree for the acquisition of the right to emancipation by the said Africans—a right which they have so long possessed; and expressing its opinion not only that that benefit should be extended to all free Africans, without restriction, as regards the time of service, but, moreover, that they should be relieved from the necessity of petitioning for their liberty, as required by the said Decree, and that the Imperial Government should take upon itself to emancipate them independently of that clause.

From the correspondence which ensued on this subject, and which will be found in Annex B, will be seen the development which it received.

List of Documents published in Annex B to the above Report.

No. 24. Decree No. 1,303 of 28th December, 1853.

No. 25. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 13th January, 1854.

(Nos. 24 and 25 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th January, 1854.)

No. 26. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 3rd February, 1854 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 11th February, 1854).

No. 27. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 3rd March, 1854.

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Inclosure therein (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13h March, 1854).

No. 28. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 8th May, 1854 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 15th May, 1854).

No. 117.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 10, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 11th ultimo,* I had the honour of transmitting the copy of a note which I addressed on the 11th ultimo to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of the arrival here, on board the American vessel "*General Pierce*," of the notorious slave-trader Jacintho Derizanz. I now beg to inclose the copy of a memorandum which I delivered on the 18th of the same month to the Minister of the United States at this Court, Mr. Trousdale, stating the reasons there existed for suspecting that Derizanz had come here for the purpose of planning a new Slave Trade expedition, and that the real destination of the "*General Pierce*" might be the coast of Africa, and suggesting that the United States' Consul (Mr. Robert G. Scott) should be instructed to watch the proceedings of Derizanz and his associates, and that the Commanders of the United States' ships of war in these waters should be made acquainted with the facts I had mentioned, with a view to their cooperation should it be required.

I called, on the following day, on the Consul, Mr. Scott, and finding that Mr. Trousdale had not sent him my memorandum, I communicated it to him, and discussed the subject at length with him. The result of my first interview with him is recorded in the despatch which I addressed to Admiral Henderson on the 26th of May, and of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy. Your Lordship will perceive from this despatch that Mr. Scott acted up to my wishes in the most cordial, frank, and highly honourable manner, and lost no time in taking active measures with a view to frustrate any attempt to carry on the Slave Trade under American colours, and in placing himself in communication with the American Commodore, D. Salter, of the United States' frigate "*Savannah*," now in this harbour, who, on his side, showed the most laudable anxiety to cooperate towards that object, as reported by Mr. Scott, and as testified by Admiral Henderson in the despatch which he addressed to me on the 27th ultimo in reply to mine of the preceding day, and of which I likewise beg to forward herewith a copy.

I have now the satisfaction of informing your Lordship that the measures thus taken, aided, no doubt, by the knowledge which Derizanz must have acquired that the Brazilian authorities were likewise watching his proceedings, have been so far crowned with success as to frustrate the project there is every reason for supposing that he entertained of entering, on the present occasion, upon a new slave-trading undertaking connected with this country; Derizanz himself having thought proper to abscond, and having, it is believed, left Rio de Janeiro secretly a short time ago, in an American vessel, for the United States, and his reputed vessel, the "*General Pierce*," having sailed yesterday for Baltimore, freighted by a commercial house here, with a legal cargo of coffee, and with the Italian styling himself Salvador de Carlos, referred to in my despatch of the 26th ultimo to Admiral Henderson, on board.

It remains for me to state, that I have informed the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs of my transactions with the American Representatives

here, and that they have met his concurrence; indeed, the President of the Council, Viscount Paraná, had expressed to me the wish that I should place myself in communication with the American Legation on the subject of the "*General Pierce*," which I had already decided to do.

Mr. Scott has quitted Rio de Janeiro for the United States on leave of absence, but previously to his departure he assured me that his son, Captain Scott, whom he has left in charge of the United States' Consulate, entertains the same feelings and would continue to act in the same sense as himself in the affair of this vessel, or in any other case which might occur; an assurance which Captain Scott has repeated to me himself in the most friendly and emphatic terms.

I understand that Derizanz' old slave-trading associates here were apprehensive of committing themselves, at a period like the present, when the attention of the Brazilian Government is particularly directed towards the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Inclosure 1 in No. 117.

Memorandum.

A NOTORIOUS slave-trader, Jacintho Derizanz, who gives out that he is now a citizen of the United States, has lately arrived at Rio de Janeiro on board the United States' vessel the "*General Pierce*," of which he is said to be the owner, and is accompanied by two other persons who have been connected with Slave Trade transactions—a United States' citizen named Jefferson, and an Italian whose name has not been correctly ascertained,

Jacintho Derizanz is a Venezuelan by birth, but has long carried on the Slave Trade as a naturalized Brazilian subject. He has been known, between 1848 and 1851, to have commanded, or to have been connected with, the slave-vessels "*União*," "*Amizade*," "*Democrat*," "*Eunomus*," "*Sereia*," and "*Providencia*," which carried on the Slave Trade between the coast of Africa and Brazil, and was principally connected with the notorious slave-trader Tomas da Costa Ramos.

On the 9th July, 1851, Jacintho Derizanz was taken outside Rio harbour in the steam-tug "*Sarah*" by Her Majesty's ship "*Cormorant*," when going out to take command of the slaver "*Valoroso*" waiting outside, and bound on a slave-voyage to the coast of Africa. Since that epoch Jacintho Derizanz is said to have been carrying on the Slave Trade with Havana.

His arrival here in the "*General Pierce*," in company with other slave-traders, and his intercourse with suspected persons resident in Rio Janeiro, induce a strong belief that he is planning a further slave-trading expedition, and that the real destination of the "*General Pierce*" may be the coast of Africa.

Under these circumstances, and persuaded of the continuance of the interest which the United States' Legation has ever taken in frustrating the Slave Trade projects of American citizens in Brazil, Mr. Howard takes the liberty of suggesting to the Honourable Mr. Trousdale the expediency of the United States' Consul at Rio being instructed to watch the movements of Jacintho Derizanz and his associates, and to take such measures as may prevent his carrying his proposed projects into execution, and it is moreover left to his Excellency to judge of the propriety of making the above facts known to the commanders of the United States' ships-of-war in these waters for their guidance, should their cooperation be required.

Rio de Janeiro, May 18, 1854.

Inclosure 2 in No. 117.

Mr. Howard to Rear-Admiral Henderson.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith, for your information, the copy of a memorandum which I have delivered to the Minister, Mr. Trousdale, and to the Consul, Mr. Robert C. Scott, of the United States of North America, relative to the suspicious circumstances, as connected with the Slave Trade, under which the notorious slave-trader, Don Jacintho Derizanz, who was taken on board the steam-tug "*Sarah*" off the harbour of Rio de Janeiro by Her Majesty's ship "*Cormorant*" in 1851, returned to this port a short time ago on board the North American vessel "*General Pierce*," of which he is stated to be the owner.

I am not aware that Mr. Trousdale has taken any step in the matter ; but I, as well as Mr. Consul Westwood, have had several interviews with Mr. Scott, who has met my wishes in the most satisfactory manner, and has not only given me the assurance that he will cordially and cheerfully assist me and all others in arresting the renewal of the Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil, or elsewhere, under the American flag, and carried on by American citizens, but has, since I first spoke to him on the subject, been actively employed in making inquiries and in taking preventive measures against the designs of Derizanz and his associates.

Mr. Scott informs me that he has communicated the information which I had given him, as well as Mr. Hudson's correspondence, relative to Derizanz, contained in the Parliamentary Slave Trade Blue Book for 1851 and 1852, pp. 208 and 235, to Commodore Salter of the United States' frigate "*Savannah*," who shares his suspicions relative to the objects of the "*General Pierce*," who has offered to cooperate for the purpose of frustrating them, and who has directed the United States' armed brig "*Bainbridge*" to be ready to put to sea at any moment in order to watch her.

Commodore Salter fears, however, that if the "*General Pierce*" should get herself towed out of port, the "*Bainbridge*" might not be able to overtake her, and he is therefore anxious to know whether you would be disposed to allow a steamer belonging to Her Majesty to tow the "*Bainbridge*" out of harbour, and upon this point I should be obliged to you, either to communicate confidentially with the Commodore or with myself.

Mr. Scott informs me that the "*General Pierce*" has a register granted by Act of the Congress of the United States, and that her owner's name appears to be James Hall, and that her papers therefore seem to be in order, but that the statement of her movements is calculated to excite suspicion. She is stated to have taken out emigrants from the United States to Liberia, and to have proceeded thence to the Cape Verd Islands, from whence she arrived here with a cargo of salt; and the master explains the existence of 20,000 cigars on board, by saying that he brought them from the United States. The presumption appears to be that the vessel has, in the meantime, carried on the Slave Trade with the Havana.

As to Derizanz, who was accompanied on board the "*General Pierce*," nominally also as passengers, by an American of the name of Jefferson, a known slave-trader, and an Italian who calls himself Salvador de Carlos, and is, I understand, a Genoese slave-trading captain; he now gives his name as Luayza.

Mr. Scott informs me, that previous to my interview with him on the 19th instant, Derizanz had sent the Italian on board the "*Savannah*" to show a declaration, purporting to have been made by him in 1853, however under another name, of his intention to become an American citizen, and to inquire whether he could count upon the protection of the American guns?

Commodore Salter referred him to Mr. Scott, with a view to the establishment of his nationality, and refused in the meantime to have anything to do with him.

The same Italian afterwards applied to Mr. Scott on behalf of Derizanz, but Mr. Scott, who was not then acquainted with Derizanz' antecedents, observed upon the necessity of all foreigners complying with the laws of the country to which they might come, and also declined to give him a promise of any special protection, and insisted upon his establishing his identity. Matters were in this state when I first called upon Mr. Scott.

I may add that Derizanz, to whose movements and proceedings I had, as early as the 8th instant, called the attention of the Brazilian Government, has kept out of the way himself, and it is even a question whether he may not already have left this port. I believe him to be the same person who, either personally or through the Italian, offered Prince Labanoff to take out the "*Rogneda*" schooner, under American colours, and to do business with the Prince, the latter retaining the ownership of the vessel, a proposal which was not listened to by the Prince.

You will perceive from the foregoing statement that the question of the "*General Pierce*" is now in the hands of the American authorities here, but I have thought it right to give you the information in my possession on the subject of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 117.

Rear-Admiral Henderson to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

"*Madagascar*," Rio de Janeiro," May 27, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of yesterday's date, relative to the North American schooner "*General Pierce*," and the supposed designs of the reported well-known slave-trader, Don Jacintho Derizanz.

Having in consequence thereof this day communicated confidentially on the subject with Commodore Salter, commanding the United States' squadron on this station, and offered to place Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Rifleman*" at his disposal to assist or cooperate with any of the United States' cruizers that he might detach to watch the "*General Pierce*," I have now the honour to inform your Excellency that the Commodore will readily avail himself of the services of the "*Rifleman*," should the suspicious circumstances respecting the real objects of the "*General Pierce*" not be removed prior to that vessel leaving the port of Rio de Janeiro.

Commodore Salter appears to be sincerely desirous to frustrate the designs of Derizanz and his associates, and to prevent the United States' flag being employed to cover the objects they have in view, and he informs me that he will continue to prosecute the steps which he has already taken for that purpose.

The readiness with which Commodore Salter enter into a discussion of this question, and the frankness with which he has accepted our offered cooperation, will, I am sure, be as gratifying to your Excellency as it is to me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. W. HENDERSON.

No. 118.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the translation of a Law for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, which received the Imperial sanction on the 5th instant, and was published in the official journal of this day.

It will be in your Lordship's recollection that this law, which has been the subject of previous reports from Her Majesty's Legation, was passed last year in the Senate towards the close of the session.

It has now, since the opening of the Chambers this year, been agreed to by the Chamber of Deputies, with an amendment accepted by the Government, and subsequently adopted by the Senate.

This amendment consists in the substitution of the word "tried" for "punished" in the second paragraph of Article 2, which as it now stands exempts Brazilian subjects from the action of this law for slave-trading transactions for which they may have been already tried in a foreign country, without requiring, as originally, that they shall actually have been punished.

The reasons urged for the amendment were, that it would be unjust to subject men to a second trial for the same offence; that if acquitted in a foreign country, their innocence ought to be taken for granted; and that, on the other hand, if pardoned for their offence, it would be an interference with the power of clemency exercised towards them by the sovereign authority of a foreign country to submit them to a further trial.

The law itself did not meet with serious opposition in the Chamber of Deputies, although several members of the Opposition, whilst proclaiming their ardent desire to see the Slave Trade put an end to, opposed the measure as one which might lead to much abuse of power, which unwarrantably deprived individuals of the right and advantage of trial by jury, and principally as a measure of great severity, which was not required by the exigencies of the case, now that the Slave Trade was at its last gasp.

Senhor Nabuco de Araujo, the Brazilian Minister of Justice, answered all these objections very ably in the speech of which I have the honour to transmit a translation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 118.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Decree of the 5th June, 1854, declaring from what time the competency of the Auditors of Marine shall take place to prosecute and try offenders referred to in the 3rd Article of the Law, No. 581, of the 4th September, 1850, and the cases in which penalties for attempts at importation of slaves shall be imposed by the said Auditors.

I AM pleased to sanction and order to be executed the following resolution of the General Legislative Assembly:

Art. 1. The competency of the Auditors of Marine to prosecute and try the offenders mentioned in the 3rd Article of the Law, No. 581, of the 4th September, 1850, shall take place after the publication of the present resolution, even in cases when the pursuit of the delinquents and of the slaves landed shall not be effected at the time of disembarkation, but shall be made subsequently, as soon as the public authority shall have intelligence of the landing, at whatever distance they may be from the coast.

Art. 2. Any Brazilian citizen, wherever he may reside, and any foreigner residing in Brazil, being the owner, captain or master, pilot or mate, or having an interest in the transactions, of any vessel engaged in the Slave Trade, shall be punished with the penalties imposed for attempts at the importation of slaves, and shall be prosecuted and tried by the said Auditors, the provision of the Law of the 4th September, 1850, continuing in force as regards importers of slaves into Brazil.

This provision does not comprise Brazilian citizens resident in foreign countries, who shall have been prosecuted and tried there for the same offence.

Art. 3. All provisions to the contrary are hereby cancelled.

Jose Thomas Nabuco de Araujo, of my Council, Minister and Secretary of State for the Affairs of Justice, shall thus cause it to be executed.

Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 5th June, 1854, 33rd year of the Independence and of the Empire.

(Countersigned) (Sign Manual of His Majesty the Emperor.)
JOSE THOMAS NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 118.

Extract from the Speech of the Minister of Justice, in the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, May 17, 1854.

(Translation.)

"MR. PRESIDENT,—It appears to me to be unnecessary that I should say what great importance the Government attach to the Project of Law now under discussion, it having been one of those recommended in the Speech from the Throne.

"The Imperial Government, and all of us, are bound by our own interests, and in the face of the whole civilized world, to repress that infamous Trade which jeopardizes our future, and renders colonization an impossibility; the Imperial Government could not, therefore, but adopt the provisions of this Project: they would even be wanting to a sacred duty if they were not strenuously to strive for their adoption. Is this Project indispensable? This is the first question raised by one of the two noble members who opposed it. He considers the Law of the 4th of September to be sufficient; but I will say that late occurrences have proved that Law to be now-a-days impotent, as regards repression. Let us see what were the circumstances, what was the state of things when the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, was promulgated.

"The circumstances of the present day are not the same as those which that Law provided against. In 1850, as you all know, the great slave-market was upon the coasts; it was there that there were large deposit warehouses whither every one went to make purchases. The Law of the 4th September, 1850, effected a change in those circumstances; the dealers changed their plans, and now-a-days the Africans, as soon as they are landed, are conveyed by impervious and cross unknown roads into the interior of the country. What can the Government do to defeat these new circumstances under the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, the action of which is restricted to the coasts? If we sincerely wish for repression, if we do not wish to sophisticate it, we ought, Sirs, to follow the slave-dealers in their new plans; it is proper that the Government should not remain impotent, that they should be enabled to act against them, and not be made responsible without possessing the necessary means for pursuing them. (Applause.)

"Besides this, an additional reason exists, which is, that the English Government, in consequence of the Oriental Question, and because they appear to confide in the sincere efforts of the Brazilian Government, have diminished the number of their cruisers on the coast of Africa; and it is therefore a sacred duty imposed upon us to respond to that confidence (applause) in redoubling the measures of repression on shore, because they are more efficacious, as by this means the Slave Trade, to use the expressions of the noble Deputy for San Paulo, is in a dying state.

"I have already shown that the present state of things is not the same as that of 1850. The fact at Bracuhy is an example of what I told you; you know how the Africans landed there were immediately conveyed into the interior.

"The noble Deputies spoke of the dangers which the provisions of this Law may produce; there is no measure, however advantageous and necessary it may be, without its inconveniences. It is proper to confide in the execution of it, because, Sirs, the Government are guarantees from those dangers—the Government who form part of the nation, and who, in case of a subversion, will be the responsible victims. (Applause.) A Government, unless they be ignorant of their mission, cannot for the sake of one interest

jeopardize the other interests of society; it is in the combining of the whole of them that the great problem of public administration consists. It is not to make an improper use of them that the Government wishes for these provisions, because if that were their aim, they have sufficient and powerful means already at their disposal. (Much applause.)

"I think that the jurisdiction which the Project wishes to establish offers more guarantees than those which actually exist. Who are the persons now charged with the prosecution and the trial of the crimes of which the 1st Article of the Project treats? The Delegates and Sub-delegates, do these deserve more confidence than the Auditors? Who are these Auditors, who appear to be so very terrible? They are the judges of right, the Chiefs of the Police; they are the persons who exercise jurisdiction in the country, and who offer greater guarantees than Delegates or Sub-delegates.

"I told you, Sirs, that the Government had the sincere desire to repress the Slave Trade, and that they were not desirous of sophisticating that repression. Would it not be a sophistication of repression to entrust juries with the adjudication of this crime? Without wishing to disparage the tribunal of the jury, I shall tell you that it is not the most proper for the punishment of these crimes. The jury may be qualified to punish crimes which common sense recognise, which are repugnant to the heart, which are, so to speak, execrated by natural law, and are considered infamous: it is not, however, the most proper for punishing those which are created by the necessities and interests of society. The slave-traders, Sirs, will not fail to seek those places for landing their slaves which, in their opinion, are the most favourable for their purpose. They will only convey Africans into the interior through places in which they may meet with protection. Can juries of those places, their accomplices, interested persons and connivers at the crime, be entrusted with the trial of them? Can we tell those nations which are cooperating with us towards this aim at civilization and humanity that the jury is satisfactory? This would be an epigram: this would not be to wish for repression; it would be a sophistication of it.

"I, Sirs, flatter myself with the language of the noble Deputy for San Paulo who first spoke, when he told us that all political opinions of the country were unanimous respecting the Slave Trade. In truth, there are certain principles which should be shared by all parties, such as those which relate to national honour, faith in Treaties, and international questions; and thus we see statesmen in civilized countries almost always coinciding in diplomatic questions. This mode of procedure, this unity of force, strengthens the Governments, and foreigners have no interest in speculating upon the vicissitudes of the policy of nations. It here becomes my province to vindicate the honour of the opinion which predominates, and to which the noble Deputy attributes the exclusive protection of the Slave Trade. There was a time, Sirs, in which all opinions throughout the country appeared to tolerate the Slave Trade, as there has also arrived one in which all are pronounced against it: this is the best grounded, the most impartial and honest judgment, that can without injustice be formed of the past and present periods. (Much applause.)

"The noble Deputy who last spoke called upon the Government for an explanation respecting the comprehensiveness of the 1st Article of the Law under discussion. According to the noble Deputy, there is danger that the Law will comprehend those crimes previously committed; but, Sirs, the expressions of the Law are very precise, and it appears to me that no doubt can remain in that respect, because the Project says: 'After the publication of the present resolution.' There is another clause in the Law which provides against all the noble Deputy's apprehensions, 'on the occasion of the disembarkation;' and it is only upon news being received of a disembarkation that the law will be enforced. As to the purchasers, there is no new provision respecting them in the Project. The provisions on that score of the 9th Article of the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, in which the 3rd Article of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, is referred to, will still subsist.

"Sirs, I heard a noble Deputy say, that the provision of the 2nd Article of the Project was contrary to the established rules of right; that it was a provision opposed to exceptional common right even to determine that only those crimes could be punished that are committed within the territory. If there is any subject respecting which private national right, which is founded upon the laws of each nation, can be doubtful and varied, it is this which appears to the noble Deputy to be clear. This matter is ruled by two main principles,—either that of the personality of the laws, a principle which predominated during the middle ages, and was followed in Germany, which still exists in Prussia and Austria, according to which the subject of a nation, wherever he may be, on committing a crime, is subject to the laws of his own country, because he is not allowed to be ignorant of them. I do not adopt that principle, which appears to me repugnant. The other principle is that of territorial sovereignty, and consists in there being only a right to punish crimes committed in the country. This principle is absolute as in England and the United States, or with the exception of those crimes which are committed against the State, or against subjects of the same nation; as is the case in France, Belgium, and the Two Sicilies, where, by exception from that second principle, the subjects of those nations are punished who in other countries commit crimes against their security, of coining false money, &c., or against their other subjects. It is in conformity with these principles that the provisions of the 2nd Article are to be considered.

"It was in our power to follow the right of this or that nation in either of the two established principles; for although we acknowledge the right of sovereignty, we may take an exception therefrom respecting any description of crimes.

"As to the amendment, it appearing to me that it is only meant as regards the wording, the Senate might be consulted on this point. I do not know what precedents there are, but it appears that the intention of the Senate was solely that of respecting the judgment of other nations."

No. 119.

Mr Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 12, 1854.

IN the debates now going on in the Brazilian Senate on the project of address in answer to the Imperial speech from the Throne, the conduct of Her Majesty's Government in maintaining the British Act of Parliament of August 1845, commonly called Lord Aberdeen's Bill, and the right of search of Brazilian merchant-vessels on the high seas, now that the Slave Trade is professed to be extinguished in Brazil, has been severely commented upon; the Act itself has been designated as an infringement of the sovereignty of Brazil, and the Brazilian Government have been attacked by members of the Opposition for not having succeeded in obtaining its revocation; a failure which was erroneously attributed by one of those members to the presence of Viscount Paraná in the Cabinet.

As I was on the point, yesterday, of leaving the room of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, his Excellency detained me, and referred to those attacks, saying that it would be necessary for him to take some steps in the matter.

I observed, that I thought the best course for his Excellency to take was to declare openly that there was no chance of inducing Her Majesty's Government to suspend the operation of the Act, until Brazil should have concluded with Great Britain an adequate Slave Trade Treaty, and that I had remarked that Viscount Paraná had said something of the kind, which was, I thought the most judicious mode of representing the question; and I added, that I thought his Excellency's predecessor, Senhor Paulino, had left the present Brazilian Administration an inconvenient

legacy by holding out, in his last year's report to the Chambers, the favourable prospect of the repeal of the Act.

In my turn, I asked his Excellency whether he had meant to convey to me, by what he had said, that he intended to make fresh proposals to Her Majesty's Government.

Senhor de Abreo replied that there was a qualification in Senhor Paulino's declaration in reference to a Treaty, which had been omitted by the members who had quoted it; that he did not intend to make any fresh proposals for a Treaty; that the Chevalier de Macedo was already provided with the necessary instructions. His Excellency then reverted to the successful efforts which the Imperial Government had made to suppress the Slave Trade, and to the circumstance of its being now extinguished in Brazil, as authorising them to expect that Her Majesty's Government would consent to abrogate the Act.

I rejoined that the Imperial Government had the remedy in their own hands—if they chose to sign the Project of Treaty proposed by your Lordship in June of last year, the operation of the Act would be suspended as long as the Treaty should last. How did the question now stand? We had declined the proposals of the Brazilian Government for a new Treaty and they had rejected ours, although not materially differing from the stipulations of our Treaty with Portugal; and it had, as I had understood from your Lordship, been then agreed between the Brazilian Envoy and yourself that things should remain *in statu quo*. With regard to the right of search, I reminded his Excellency that we exercised it as well in virtue of the Perpetual Article of the Treaty of 1826, and that your Lordship had yourself explained in a despatch dated the 4th of January last, a copy of which I had had the honour of placing in his hands, that the Brazilian Government were mistaken in supposing that Her Majesty's Government intended to abandon the exercise of that right. I said that I could not admit that the Slave Trade was completely extinguished in Brazil; the information which his Excellency had transmitted to me proved that it was not so; and besides, what guarantee had we that another Administration would have the suppression of the Slave Trade as much at heart as that of which he was a member, and would take as vigorous measures with that view?

Senhor de Abreo, in conclusion, observed that the feeling in general in Brazil was now opposed to the Slave Trade, which was now only sought to be carried on by a few individuals; and that under these circumstances no future Administration would act otherwise than the present Government were doing. He added, that he had received despatches from M. de Macedo, stating that he hoped to be able to come to an understanding with your Lordship on the topics we had conversed upon; and I inferred from what his Excellency said, that it is his intention to write to that Minister to press the wishes of the Imperial Government on your Lordship.

Having on previous occasions dwelt, in my conversations with the Brazilian Ministers, on the advantages of the cooperation of Her Majesty's cruizers, and on the encouragement which the cessation by them of the exercise of the right of search on the high seas, and the revocation of the Act of 1845, would prove to the slave-traders, I did not seek, on the present occasion, to prolong my conversation on these subjects with his Excellency, which was carried on throughout in the most friendly terms.

I cannot conclude this despatch without mentioning to your Lordship that I have not altogether escaped, during the discussions in the Senate, the attacks which were lavished upon Mr. Hudson.

Two of the members have found great fault with my notes to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of the emancipation of the so-called free Africans, saying that they constituted an interference with the internal affairs of the country; that their tone was too haughty, whilst that of Senhor de Abreo's communications to me was too submissive: moreover, that I advocated measures which would throw the country into disorder.

One noble Senator, who makes a handle of every question in order to attack the present Imperial Government, as he did the previous Adminis-

tration, declared that he was nearly shedding tears on reading my notes. I have, however, consoled myself with the reflection that this melancholy consummation did not actually take place.

The fact is, that the question of the emancipation of the free Africans is one which affects too many private interests to be a palatable one. There is such a numerous class of persons in this country who have so long enjoyed the services of these unfortunate individuals, that they are unwilling to see the advantages they derive from those services withdrawn or curtailed; and whilst they have been obliged to make up their minds to the cessation of the importation of Africans, they seem to be only more intent upon retaining in servitude those who, though having a right to full liberty, are still kept in bondage.

I feel that I ought to apologise to your Lordship for this allusion to myself; but I have been induced to make it, as it shows what I believe to be a pretty widely spread feeling on the question of the free Africans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 120.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 13, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 28th of April and the 11th of May last,* concerning an expected landing of Africans on the coast of the Brazilian Province of Rio Grande do Sul, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Commander Parish, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Sharpshooter," who was dispatched by Admiral Henderson to cruize in those quarters, has returned here, and reports to me that he has not seen any suspicious vessel, nor heard any confirmatory information on the subject.

The Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, acquaints me that he has received contradictory intelligence on the subject; however, his last despatches from the Presidents of the Provinces of Rio Grande and St. Catherine, state the disbelief of those functionaries of the accuracy of the information which had reached him, and which he had communicated to me, of the reported project of a disembarkation of slaves at Tramandahy; the President of the former Province had, nevertheless, sent a military detachment to the spot in question.

I cannot help remarking to your Lordship, that it is satisfactory to observe that, whereas a year ago, the Brazilian Government rather deprecated the cooperation of Her Majesty's cruizers, it was upon Senhor de Abreo's inquiry, whether Admiral Henderson could not spare a steamer, that the "Sharpshooter" was sent down to the coast of Rio Grande.

I have &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 121.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of June, reporting the steps which you had taken respecting the notorious slave-trader Jacintho Derizanz, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 93 and 101.

No. 122.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 24, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of June, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction the publication of the Imperial Decree of the 5th of June, sanctioning a law for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, which was passed in the Brazilian Senate during its last session.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 123.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 25, 1854.

I ENTIRELY approve the language which you held to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs in a conversation with him respecting certain observations which were made in the Brazilian Senate on the subject of the continuance of the Act of Parliament of August 1845, as reported in your despatch of the 12th of June, and I have to desire that you will adhere to the same language upon all similar occasions, as it faithfully represents the views of Her Majesty's Government.

I have spoken in the same sense to M. de Macedo, and I see no prospect of his agreeing to such a Treaty as Her Majesty's Government would consider safe or justifying the suspension of the Act of 1845.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 124.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 27, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 8th instant,* inclosing copies of a letter which I had received from the Brazilian Minister at this Court, and of my reply thereto, on the subject of the past conduct of the Brazilian Government with regard to the Slave Trade, I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a further letter† on the same subject, dated the 7th instant, which I have received from the Chevalier de Macedo. I have to add, that Her Majesty's Government have not thought it necessary to return an answer to M. de Macedo's last letter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 13.

† No. 114.

No. 125.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 2, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th of May last,* transmitting to your Lordship the copy of a note which I had addressed on the previous day to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of an alleged attempt to reduce the child of a free negress to slavery, I have the honour of inclosing a translation of a note dated the 27th ultimo, which I have received from his Excellency in reply, stating the various measures taken by the Minister of Justice on the subject, and explaining the circumstances under which the child in question had been baptized as a slave, and had remained in this country after the departure of her mother.

Your Lordship will perceive that the baptism, under that form, is explained as having been a mistake, and that the child is stated to have remained behind by her own wish and with the consent of her mother. However this may have been, the liberty of the child is now notorious, and the inquiries which have been instituted cannot but be productive of good.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 125.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 27, 1854.

I HAVE already acknowledged the receipt of the note which on the 10th of May last was addressed to me by Mr. H. F. Howard, &c.

Mr. Howard, in this note, informs me that a merchant of this city, residing in the Rua Direita, named Joaquim Luiz Soares, had a free female African in his house, who was delivered of a daughter whilst in his service, and that the child when baptized was entered as a slave on the parish register. Mr. Howard adds, that that entry having been afterwards amended in consequence of a complaint preferred to the police by the mother, the latter was sent on board a steamer to the northern ports, deprived of her child, and that the husband of the said African woman, who had taken an active part against Soares, had been imprisoned, although subsequently released; and further, that criminal attempts have been made by some persons of more elevated positions to reduce free negroes to slavery.

Having transmitted Mr. Howard's note to the Minister of Justice, I have just received from his Excellency the following information relative to its contents, which is the result of a most severe and scrupulous investigation.

The merchant Joaquim Luiz Soares had, in effect, a free African woman, named Marcellina, in his house, whose services had been allotted to him for fourteen years, at the expiration of which time she claimed her emancipation, which having been granted to her, she was furnished by the competent judge with a passage on board the steamer "Josephina" to Bahia, from whence she was to be re-exported to the coast of Africa, as directed by the orders of the Ministry of Justice of the 8th of March and 3rd of April of the present year.

Previous to the effecting of the re-exportation of that female African, together with the black man, José Manoel, to whom she had been a short time before married, the Chief of Police was instructed by the said Ministry of Justice to procure information relative to the reported fact that the Creole, Luiza Leocadia, bred and educated in the house of the merchant

Joaquim Luiz Soares, had been compelled by that black man, residing at San Christovão, to go to the Gold Coast.

Leocadia, on being interrogated, said that it was her free and spontaneous wish to accompany her mother to the Gold Coast, and the black man, José, said that the reason why Joaquim Luiz Soares opposed the departure of Leocadia was because he wanted to enslave her, as for that purpose he had caused her to be baptized as a slave, as was seen in the record of her baptism in the parish of the Candellaria in this city.

The Chief of Police having ordered minutes of that declaration to be committed to writing, he called for a certificate of the registry of the baptism of the black girl Leocadia, and thereby it appears that she was in fact baptized as the slave of Soares, and registered as such in the book of the registry of slaves; but that by order of the Count Bishop, Chief Chaplain, of the 4th May last, that registration was transferred to the book of free persons at the request of the said merchant Soares, against whom the Chief of the Police did not institute criminal proceedings in consequence of Leocadia's parents having, whilst he was examining into this question, stated that a complaint had already been lodged against Soares in the first municipal court of this capital.

The liberty of the said Creole girl having thus been proved, and that the first registration of her baptism, by which she was described as a slave, could not bind her to slavery, she was given up to her parents to follow her destiny.

After the delivery of the Creole Leocadia to her mother, the Chief of the Police learnt that she was again in the house of the said Soares, the African Marcellina having gone to Bahia with her husband.

From the interrogatories, separately proceeded to, of Soares and the Creole Leocadia, and from the statements made by both of them, it was ascertained that she had returned to the house of Soares very spontaneously by means of certain requests, and the influence of other persons, begging to be readmitted there, and even with the consent of her mother Marcellina, and of the latter's husband.

From the allegations of Soares it is seen that the Creole Leocadia had been baptized as a slave by order of an old woman, his housekeeper, and that when he became acquainted with that fact he sent to have that registration altered, and that so far from considering her to be his slave, he always treated her as a free person, and even had her taught to read and write, and caused her to wear shoes, as was witnessed by and known to respectable persons who frequented his house.

From all that has above been shown, and from the statements of the coadjutor of the parish of Candellaria, where the said Creole was baptized, and from the reply of the Vicar, and still further from the general good opinion held of the merchant Soares. I think, with the Chief of the Police, that it should be concluded that only through a mistake the fact could have occurred of the Creole Leocadia having been baptized as a slave, which appears further to be confirmed by the fact of the complaint against him not having been followed up in the first municipal court.

With regard to the imprisonment of the black, José Manoel, by the Delegate of the Police, it appears from the official report of the latter that the said black was summoned to appear at the Delegate's office, in order to give up a sum of money entrusted to him by a black woman named Liberata, and as he did not choose to appear, and disobeyed the orders of that authority, he was sent to prison, and was released after due investigation of the case.

I have finally to tell Mr. Howard that if some attempts have been made to reduce free persons to slavery, the authorities of the country have not neglected the performance of their duty whenever such facts have come to their knowledge.

I think that the preceding explanations will enable Mr. Howard to entertain a more correct idea than that which he possessed relative to the facts alleged in his note of the 10th of May last.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 126.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 5, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt on the 28th ultimo of your Lordship's despatch of the 19th of April last, and to inform your Lordship that, in compliance with the instructions which it contains, I have notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learned that the Municipal Judge of Marianna has pronounced a judgment directing that the three slaves who belonged to the late John Craven are to be set at liberty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 127.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 11, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of July, respecting the proceedings which had been taken in the case of the Creole girl Leocadia, and which have led to the recognition of her freedom by the Brazilian authorities; and I have to inform you that I approve the representation which you made to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 128.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 10, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of May last,* I have conveyed in a note of yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the information communicated in his Excellency's note to me of the 11th of April, relative to the proceedings of the Portuguese vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto on a slave-trading voyage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 129.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 12, 1854.

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of May last,† I have the honour to make the following statement.

No coolies have been imported into Brazil, as supposed by Mr. Sturge,

* No. 90.

† No. 88.

of Birmingham. A shipload of them touched here a couple of years ago, on her way back to India from the West Indies, but on being asked whether they were disposed to remain in this country, they replied in the negative.

A certain number of Chinese were introduced in the time of Don John VI of Portugal, nearly thirty years ago, for the cultivation of the tea-plant; but the speculation failed, and they dispersed. It does not appear that they suffered ill-treatment, and those who have remained in the country are for the most part well off, and established as shopkeepers. A few Chinese occasionally come here singly on board merchant-vessels, but are not dealt with in the manner described by Mr. Sturge.

With regard to the class of liberated Africans imported into this country since the year 1831, they are undoubtedly treated in most respects as slaves, and it may be assumed that a considerable number of them have been sold, or otherwise reduced to permanent slavery, but your Lordship will have learnt from my correspondence that an Imperial Decree was issued in December last, providing that those who have served private individuals during fourteen years shall be emancipated. With regard to those who are employed in the public establishments and offices, the Brazilian Government do not consider themselves obliged to restore them to full liberty, though they consider they are entitled to receive wages after the period of fourteen years.

With regard to the Germans who come to this country, they arrive as colonists: and with regard to the islanders from the Azores and Cape Verds, after working out in about ten months their passage money, they hire themselves out as servants, and are quite free.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 130.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a *précis* of that part of the proceedings of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies yesterday, which related to the inquiries addressed by the Deputy Senhor Ferraz to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and to his Excellency's reply on the subject of the negotiations with Her Majesty's Government for a Slave Trade Convention, and for the repeal of the British Act of Parliament of 1845, commonly called "Lord Aberdeen's Act," and of the means employed by the Imperial Government in order to obtain from Great Britain the compensation alleged to be due to Brazilian subjects on account of prizes taken.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 130.

Précis of Proceedings in the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, on the 13th of July, 1854, relative to the Slave Negotiations with England.

(Translation.)

THE Deputy Senhor Angelo Ferraz having inquired of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, first, what was the nature of the Convention or arrangement which his Excellency had intimated, in a former debate, was in course of negotiation respecting the repeal of Lord Aberdeen's Bill of the year 1845; and secondly, what means the Government had

employed in order to obtain, from England, compensation due to Brazilian subjects for prizes taken, Senhor Limpo de Abreo returned the following answers :

"The Imperial Government have given to that negotiation that consideration and direction which were most suitable. My predecessor has already, in his report, brought to the knowledge of the Chambers the agreements which were in course of negotiation for the repeal of the Bill of 1845. Neither in this Chamber, nor in the Senate, has any observation been made thereon."

His Excellency then read the report, which justified his assertion, and the necessity and legitimacy of those agreements. They proceed from the international stipulations of Great Britain with Portugal and Brazil for the cessation of the Slave Trade.

The Minister referred to the stipulations of the 22nd of January, 1815, of the 29th of August, 1817, and of the 23rd of November, 1826. He reminded the Chamber that, in virtue of those Conventions, and of a Separate Article of the 11th September, 1817, the Crowns of Great Britain and of Portugal, and virtually that of Brazil, agreed that posterior steps should be taken for the regular abolition of the Slave Trade; and that, for the adoption of those measures in common, diplomatic agreements became necessary.

"There is a promise," his Excellency said, "an obligation, arising from the Treaty of 1817, and from the Separate Article, by virtue of which measures must be taken in substitution of those which were therein established."

After the termination of the Treaty, the British Government have made several proposals to the Government of Brazil, who have exchanged their ideas with them, but without coming to an agreement. But that it becomes necessary to take measures in common, is not a matter of doubt with his Excellency.

When England promulgated the Bill of 1845, he, the orator, being then Minister for Foreign Affairs, had occasion to protest against that attack upon the national sovereignty of Brazil; but he did not, in that protest, exclude the possibility of Conventions for obtaining the complete abolition of the Slave Trade. The reason was then the same as that which he had just given, because it has always been his opinion that Brazil was by Treaty bound to enter into an agreement for the final adjustment of this question.

His Excellency considers the opposition of Senhor Ferraz to arise from the apprehension of such agreements being calculated to injure Brazilian commerce. If the Government of Brazil had not been so zealous in guarding the interests of commerce, those agreements would ere this have been concluded. The same spirit will preside over such stipulations as may be entered into. A negotiation on this subject cannot be objected to *in limine*, because all efforts, compatible with the honour and commercial interests of Brazil, should be made to erase that Bill from the legislation of England. Notwithstanding its being for a length of time a dead letter, it is nevertheless an offensive act against the Brazilian rights of sovereignty. (Cheers.) He does not say that they should sacrifice the interests of commerce; but those concessions can be made which may be compatible with its interests.

With reference to the other inquiries which had just been made, his Excellency said that he had continued to instruct the Brazilian Minister in London to prosecute the claims for compensation due to Brazilian subjects for prizes. Hitherto that question has not been solved. It is his Excellency's opinion that when the difficulties are removed respecting the Slave Trade question, between the British and Brazilian Cabinets, those claims will be attended to. The present Ministry can do no more than what their predecessors in office did, but they have not omitted recommending this subject to their Diplomatic Agent.

Senhor Ferraz, in reply to the Minister, began with the question of the Aberdeen Bill.

After divers remarks upon the stipulations of 1815, 1817, and 1826,
CLASS B.

with regard to the Slave Trade, he protested against the manner in which England arrogated to herself the right of framing a Bill to fill up a deficiency in the legislation of Brazil, because, she said, the Slave Trade was continuing upon a large scale, and with the protection of the Brazilian authorities. That the Slave Trade had ceased, not, as Lord John Russell had foreseen, owing to the roar of English cannon, nor to the dismantling of our forts, but to the patriotic sentiments of the whole country (hear), and to the active cooperation of the political powers of the State. Now that England herself appears to be satisfied, is certainly not a proper time for negotiating for the repeal of that Bill, which debases Brazil, and ought to have been voluntarily repealed. Neither can he agree to the propriety of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who was the originator and signer of that famous Protest against that Bill, now nullifying his own work, and satisfying the *velléité* of the British Government, in signing a Convention for that purpose. It would be better that that Bill should remain in the collection of the laws of Great Britain, and die forgotten among the dust of her archives. Before entering into any negotiation, the repeal of a Bill which is an outrage against the dignity and honour of Brazil should be demanded.

With regard to the prizes, the noble Minister said that he had taken the necessary measures, but that he did not think it prudent to insist upon those claims, because it might be the means of producing the reappearance of the Slave Trade. The orator is of opinion that the acknowledgment of the justice of a case never can, in any instance, encourage crime.

No. 131.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 5, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, respecting the emancipated slaves in Brazil who have acquired their own freedom, and are desirous of returning thence to the coast of Africa.

I have to call your attention to Mr. Campbell's remarks as to the difficulty which these poor people experience in procuring passages to Africa, and to his suggestion that Her Majesty's Consuls at the principal ports in Brazil might possibly be able to assist these negroes by their interposition; and I have to desire that you will take any steps for this object that may appear to you to be practicable.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 132.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

NOT having received on the 17th ultimo any written answer from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to my note of the 30th of March last on the subject of the African John, whom I had taken under my protection and sent back to the Cape of Good Hope, as reported in my despatch of the 13th of April,† I addressed to his Excellency on that day the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, reminding him of the fact of the non-reception by me of such answer, and communicating the approval contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of May,‡ of the course which I had taken in behalf of that African.

I subsequently received from Senhor Limpo de Abreo a note, dated

* No. 2.

† No. 87.

‡ No. 91.

the 19th of July, transmitting to me, in reply, a certificate of freedom, delivered on the 5th of May last by the Judge of the Orphans of this capital in favour of the said John, as well as a copy of the deposition, signed before the police on the 5th of the preceding April by his pretended owner, Senhor da Costa, stating the circumstances under which he professes to have bought him, but desisting from all further claim to him. Of these papers I likewise beg to inclose translations.

As there appeared to me strong grounds for assuming, even from Senhor da Costa's own story, and notwithstanding his denials, that he had reduced John to slavery knowing him to be a free man, and as the Brazilian authorities seemed to have confined themselves to taking down his deposition, without adopting any further measures to elucidate the matter and to promote the ends of justice, I addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the 25th ultimo, the note of which the accompanying is a copy, pointing out these circumstances, and urging the institution of further proceedings, with a view to ascertaining how far Senhor da Costa may not have rendered himself amenable to the laws; and I received from his Excellency the preliminary answer of the 27th of the same month, annexed hereto in translation, stating his having referred the subject of that note to the Minister of Justice.

I have been induced not to allow this case to rest in the manner in which Senhor Limpo de Abreo had disposed of it, from the feeling of the expediency of keeping up the Brazilian authorities to their duty, and of not permitting those individuals who have been guilty of the crime of reducing free men to slavery to remain altogether unmolested, even if I should not be able to effect their punishment.

When I shall receive the answer I am expecting from the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope to the letter which I addressed to him on the 13th of April by Her Majesty's ship "Juno," on the subject of John, I shall be enabled to form a fuller judgment of the case.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 132.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

ON the 20th of March last I had the honour of addressing a note to your Excellency, detailing the circumstances under which I had taken an African named John, or Joaquim, emancipated at the Cape of Good Hope, under my protection, and urging the Imperial Government to take the necessary steps for punishing the individual, Senhor Luiz da Costa, of this capital, who had illegally reduced him to slavery.

At an interview which I had, some weeks subsequently, with you, your Excellency was so good as to inform me that Senhor da Costa abandoned all claim to John, and that it appeared he had acted in good faith, but your Excellency was then unable to give me any details on the subject. On my part, I stated to your Excellency that it had likewise come to my knowledge that Senhor da Costa had renounced his claim to John, and that having, since the date of my note of the 20th of March last, learnt further facts corroborative of his right to full liberty, I had taken an opportunity of sending him back to the Cape of Good Hope in Her Majesty's ship "Juno." I likewise made some other remarks relative to the advisableness of prosecuting the matter further, and to the importance, with a view to the suppression of Slave Trade attempted to be carried on in the interior of the Empire, of punishing those individuals who should be convicted of illegally reducing free men to slavery.

I have now the honour of informing your Excellency that I have lately received a despatch from the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to whom I had reported the measures I had adopted, acquainting me that his Lordship entirely approves of the course which I took in respect to the said African John,

and, as I have not yet had the pleasure of receiving any definite or written reply from your Excellency, I should feel obliged by your communicating to me the result of the measures which you informed me had been taken by the Imperial Government in order to elucidate the matter.

I may add, that it appears to me quite impossible, considering that John spoke English perfectly, and that he made no secret of his having come from the Cape of Good Hope, that Senhor da Costa should not have verified the fact, and have been fully aware that he was, by the laws of Brazil, a free man.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 132.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 19, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the notes which, under the dates of the 20th of March and 17th instant, were addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., relative to the black named John, *alias* Joaquim, who sought the protection of the British Legation, saying that he was a free man, by reason of having been brought from the Cape of Good Hope, where his freedom had been declared, and where he had resided for some time.

In answer, I have the honour to acquaint Mr. Howard, that having applied to the Minister of Justice for the necessary information on this subject, his Excellency has transmitted to me the inclosed certificate of freedom granted by the Judge of the Orphans in consequence of the declaration made before the Chief of the Police, whereof a copy is also inclosed, signed by Antonio Luiz da Costa, who desisted from the right which he supposed that he had over the said black, from having bought him in 1836 from Antonio Augusto de Oliveira Botelho, since he discovered that the negro Joaquim had been declared a free man at the Cape of Good Hope.

Judging that I reply in a satisfactory manner to the subject of the above-mentioned notes, I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 132.

Certificate of Freedom.

(Translation.)

I, THE Doctor José Joaquim de Sequeira, Chamberlain of His Majesty the Emperor, Judge of the Orphans in this city of Rio de Janeiro;

Do make known to all the authorities, and to all other persons to whom the knowledge of these presents shall come, that by virtue of the instruction of the Minister of Justice of the 30th of last April, and of the the sentence of this Court of the 9th instant, the African named Joaquim, of the Benguella nation, is hereby considered free, and in the full enjoyment of his freedom by the act of desistance of Antonio Luiz da Costa from all the right, action, and possession which he had over the said African, having recognized that he had been freed at the Cape of Good Hope, as is declared in the respective record of desistance annexed to the process, and in order that his freedom may become evident, I have caused the present to be granted to him, which will serve him as a title of his right to freedom.

Rio de Janeiro, May 9, 1854.

And I, João Maria da Luz, Clerk, have written this.

(Signed) DR. JOSE JOAQUIM DE SEQUEIRA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 132.

Deposition.

(Translation.)

ON the 5th day of April of the year 1854, and by virtue of an order of Don José Mattoso de Andrade Camara, Chief of Police *ad interim*, came and appeared before him the apothecary, Antonio Luiz da Costa, residing in the Rua Nova de San Francisco da Prainha since 1845, who being asked by the said Chief of Police to tell what he knew regarding a negro named Joaquim, of the Benguella nation, who he said is his slave, the said Costa answered that question by making the following declaration:

That having purchased this slave in the year 1836 or 1837 from his gossip ("compadre"), named Antonio Augusto de Oliveira Botelho, he fled from him soon after the purchase, and that about two years ago he appeared to him, having been brought by a city policeman, to whom he, the deponent, gave a gratification of sixty milreis, the said negro having at that time acknowledged the deponent as his legitimate master, and then related to him that when he fled he went on board a vessel to England, and returned on board another to this port, where he had been arrested by city policemen whilst asleep in the hull of a vessel aground on the beach of the Sande, a place which he had selected to shelter himself at night since his arrival in this port. That since his flight he served him for nearly two years, always acknowledging him, the deponent, as his legitimate master, but having subsequently taken to drinking, he, the deponent, resolved to sell him on that account, and for that purpose sent him to Arrosal duly cleared; but he having continued to inebriate himself there, and denying the qualities he possessed to those persons who presented themselves as purchasers, because he did not choose to be sold to anyone residing out of this city, the sale could not be effected, and he consequently was sent back to him, the deponent, with whom he remained about fifteen days, and then disappeared, when it became known to the deponent that his said slave called himself a free man, in consequence of having been in England since his first flight, and having sailed in English vessels; but that he, the deponent, in full good faith, considered him to be his slave, and was entirely ignorant of his having, whilst in England, obtained during his flight a right to consider himself free; that if it was true that he had acquired a claim to liberty, he, the deponent, would not hesitate in desisting from all right and dominion over the said slave, and that the authority might at once take charge of him, wherever he might be, and give him such destination as should be considered most proper, upon the authorities furnishing the deponent with a document by which he could procure the annulment, at the Receiver's Office of the Municipality, of the registration of the said negro as his slave, as appears from the certificate which he presents; that he had no document to exhibit of the purchase, the deponent having bought the negro from one of his gossips, as he had before stated, who, being his friend, he did not at the time of the purchase require from him the competent document, it being then understood that his "compadre" would furnish this title-deed when he should be more at leisure, or when he, the deponent, should want it, but that there not having been any necessity for it the matter was forgotten; that his said gossip is at present in New York, and that he has written to him for the said title-deed, as the occasion has arrived for its being required, and that he, the deponent, binds himself to present it as soon as it is received, or within a reasonable period. And further the deponent said nothing, wherefore the said Chief of Police has signed this declaration with the deponent.

I, Fermino José da Silva Veiga, amanuensis of the police office of this city, have written it,

(Signed)

CAMARA.

ANTONIO LUIZ DE COSTA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 132.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 19th instant, in reply to my two notes of the 20th of March and 17th of this month, on the subject of the free African John, who sought and obtained my protection.

In my first-mentioned note I requested that steps might be taken for establishing John's liberty, and for punishing, if there should be ground for so doing, the individual who had illegally kept him in slavery.

The first part of this request has now been satisfactorily disposed of by the transmission to me, for which I beg to return your Excellency my best thanks, of the certificate, declaratory of John's liberty, issued on the 5th of May by the Judge of Orphans of this capital.

With regard to the second part of that request, it appears to me that the Imperial authorities have hitherto confined themselves to taking down the depositions of the pretended proprietor of John and the incriminated party, Senhor Antonio Luiz da Costa, without adopting any further measures towards elucidating the matter, and promoting the ends of justice.

According to Senhor da Costa's own deposition of the 5th of April last, a copy of which has been inclosed to me by your Excellency, he admits having been informed by John that the latter had been resident on the British soil; consequently he must have known that John, on his return to Brazil, was free according to the laws of the Empire; but notwithstanding the knowledge of that fact, he subsequently, having reduced John to slavery, offered him for sale.

Senhor da Costa's further statement that he was ignorant that John had obtained a British instrument by which he might consider himself free, does not appear to me to afford a sufficient excuse for his conduct, for it must have been known to him that the circumstance alone of John having touched the British soil, made him a free man.

It likewise seems to me that it would be desirable to take the deposition of Captain Barreto, of Arrozal, to whom John was offered for sale, but who, as John believes, was induced not to purchase him because John declared to him that he was a free man.

Under these circumstances I beg to submit to your Excellency the propriety of adopting further measures and proceedings with a view to ascertaining how far Senhor da Costa may not have rendered himself amenable to the laws for having reduced a free man to slavery.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 6 in No. 132.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 27, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which under date of the 25th instant was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., in which, referring to the statements subscribed to by Antonio Luiz da Costa before the Chief of the Police of the capital, desisting from all claims of right over the African John, who was declared at the Cape of Good Hope to be free, he says that the authorities of the Empire confined themselves only to that statement, and did not endeavour to find out to what extent the said Costa had committed himself by the fact of having reduced to slavery the negro John, who was a free man, from the simple fact of having trod on British ground, a condition of which the said Costa could not have been ignorant.

Having addressed myself upon this subject to the Minister of Justice, I expect that his Excellency will enable me to reply thereon to Mr. Howard, to whom I renew, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 133.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

IN the middle of last month a liberated African, of the name of Hilario, waited upon me, and presented to me a petition, in which he stated that he was one of those Africans who had been hired out to private individuals; that he obtained his certificate of emancipation in virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December of last year, on the 22nd of March last; that since that period he had been placed and had remained in the House of Correction, where he had to work for the Government without receiving any wages, whereas he could gain a good livelihood were he free by following his profession of a mason. He accordingly prayed me to interfere with the Imperial Government in order to obtain his full liberty, as well as that of all the emancipated Africans similarly circumstanced, and now in the House of Correction, and who, as he stated in answer to my inquiries, were upwards of 100 in number.

I thought it right to explain to Hilario that I did not exercise any authority in this country. I therefore recommended him and the other emancipated Africans in question to submit their cases individually in petitions to the Brazilian Minister of Justice for his favourable consideration; and I promised on my part to render my assistance by communicating with the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject.

I accordingly addressed on the same day, the 17th of July, to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the note, in that sense, of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, and I received from his Excellency the preliminary answer, dated the 19th of the same month, of which the annexed is a translation, stating that he had applied to the Minister of Justice, in order to enable him to reply to me.

I beg to add that I will not fail to keep my attention directed to this affair.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 133.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the case of an emancipated African Hilario (Congo, No. 77, of the cargo of the schooner "*Cesar*," has been brought under my notice, with the request that I would intercede with the Imperial Government in order that he and others similarly situated may be restored to full liberty.

This African obtained his certificate of emancipation on the 22nd of March of this year, in virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, and has since been detained in the House of Correction in this capital, without receiving, it is said, any wages for his work; whereas it is contended that he could gain a good livelihood by exercising, if free, his profession of mason.

In reply to the request thus addressed to me, I have recommended that Hilario should himself submit his case to the Imperial Minister of Justice, for his Excellency's favourable consideration; and in making this communication to your Excellency, I feel convinced that the Imperial

Government will be disposed to accede to his or similar applications, whenever they can prudently do so, in order that the emancipation of the Africans in question may become a reality.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 133.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 19, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to me, under date of the 17th instant, in which he mentions having been informed that an African named Hilario, Congo, belonging to the crew of the schooner "*Cesar*," was detained in the House of Correction, in spite of his having obtained on the 22nd of March of this year, his certificate of emancipation, and requests that he may be restored to full liberty, as well as all others who may be in the same circumstances; and in reply I have the honour to inform him that I have applied to the Minister of Justice for the necessary intelligence, to enable me to answer the note of Mr. Howard, to whom, on this occasion, I reiterate, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 134.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th of May last, I have the honour of inclosing translations accordingly, of a further correspondence which has been exchanged between the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and myself, on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Limpo de Abreo argues in his note of the 15th ultimo, in reply to mine of the 15th of May (a copy of which was inclosed in my above-mentioned despatch of the 15th of May), that the free Africans employed in the public establishments, although they are not to be released from that service until they are reexported, receiving in the meantime wages after fourteen years' service, cannot be considered as slaves any more than the colonist, the orphan, the soldier, and the sailor, who serve for pay.

In a note of the 17th of July, I confined myself in the first instance to acknowledge the receipt of his note of the 15th, a copy of which I mentioned that I would transmit to your Lordship, and to acquainting his Excellency with the approval contained in your despatch of the 27th of April last,* of my note to him of the 3rd of March.

But Senhor de Abreo having afforded me another opportunity of replying to him, by acknowledging on his part the receipt of my note of the 17th July, in a note of the 18th of July, in which he says that the Imperial Government continued to think the Decree of the 28th of December of last year sufficient for the present, but that they will not hesitate to make in it such alterations as experience may recommend, I addressed, on the 25th of July, to his Excellency a further note, stating my persuasion of the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government would learn the assurance given by him in respect to such contingent alterations, but at the same time my opinion that the latter were already called for, and contesting, with reference to his previous note of the 15th July, the analogy which he had sought to draw between the condition of the free Africans

* No. 80.

in the public service, and that of the colonist, the orphan, the soldier, and the sailor.

I further pointed out to his Excellency, that according to the information which I had collected, it is only in some of the public establishments that the free Africans in question receive a small daily allowance, whereas in others no pecuniary payments are made to them.

In a note of the 28th of July, Senhor de Abreo informed me that he had addressed himself, on the subject of my note of the 25th, to the Minister of Justice, and would reserve his reply to me until he should have heard from the latter.

Having yesterday received your Lordship's despatch of the 4th ultimo, directing me to inform Senhor de Abreo that Her Majesty's Government approve the observations contained in my note of the 15th of May last, respecting the condition of the liberated Africans, and that they take the strongest interest in the fate of this class of individuals, and feel bound to secure for them all the protection and privileges to which they are entitled, I embodied these instructions in a note of this day's date, to his Excellency.

I trust that the gradual pressure exercised by these repeated communications to the Brazilian Government may not be without some beneficial result, at least, for the unfortunate Africans in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 134.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which, under date of the 15th of May last, was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., in which, referring to my note of the 8th of said month, in reply to Mr. Howard's of the 3rd of March upon the question of the emancipation of the freed Africans, he says, that he cannot but note the observation made by me in my said note of the 8th of March, that the freed Africans employed in the public departments and establishments are not comprehended in the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, with regard to the exemption from service, to which they are bound, even after the fourteen years, until the effecting of their reexportation; but that they are to earn wages after that period, which will be awarded to them.

Mr. Howard, in contesting that observation, advances inadmissible propositions.

He assumes that the Africans employed in the public departments are not free, or do not enjoy their liberty; this assumption is incorrect, unless he considers as slaves the colonist, the soldier, the orphan, who serve for pay, the sailor, &c.

To these observations of Mr. Howard, I will answer that this exception is founded upon the danger or inconvenience which would result to public order from letting loose upon the population, where so many slaves still exist, a great number of Africans employed in the public departments. It is proper to add that in many cases those unhappy beings, the greater part of them without the necessary experience, would perhaps incur the contingency of being reduced to slavery by fraud and seduction, and that this state of subjection is to last in the public departments until their reexportation is effected.

The arguments grounded upon the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, are inapplicable to the case, because there are very few Africans in the employ of the public departments, who were thereby emancipated, and in order to admit of the application of those arguments, it would be necessary to assume that the said Africans who are employed in the public departments are deprived of the right to their liberty.

Certainly it cannot be denied that the Imperial Government have a right to subject those Africans to a residence, to a regimen, and to required

service, when their full liberty is incompatible with public order, when, besides, that subjection is provisional, and even enforced for the benefit of the said Africans.

Upon these grounds I think that I reply in a satisfactory manner to Mr. Howard's said note, and reiterate, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 134.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I received, during the course of the past month, a despatch from the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, informing me that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve of the note which I addressed to your Excellency on the 3rd of March last, on the subject of the emancipation of the liberated Africans, in reply to yours of the 3rd of the preceding month.

I have at the same time the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 15th instant, on the same subject, a copy of which I will not fail to transmit to my Government by the first opportunity.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 134.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 18, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. H. F. Howard, &c., addressed to me under yesterday's date, informing me that he had received a despatch from his Government approving of Mr. Howard's note of the 3rd of last March, on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans, in reply to that of the 3rd of February from this Ministry.

Mr. Howard informs me at the same time that he is in possession of my last note on the same subject, dated the 15th instant, and that he will not fail to transmit by the first opportunity a copy of it to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

Knowing the view which Her Britannic Majesty's Government takes of this discussion in question, it is right that I should inform Mr. Howard that the Government of His Majesty the Emperor continues to think that the terms of the Decree of the 28th of December of last year, provide, as much as is possible in the present circumstances, for the emancipation of the Africans who have been declared free, and in the meantime it will not hesitate to make such modifications in the said Decree as experience shall recommend, with a view to the benefit of those Africans, as soon as this can be done without inconvenience.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 134.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving the note of the 18th instant, addressed to me by your Excellency, in reply to mine of the preceding day's date.

I am persuaded that Her Majesty's Government will learn with satisfaction the assurance therein contained, that the Imperial Government will not hesitate to make such alterations in the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December of last year, concerning the free Africans in the service of private individuals, as experience shall recommend, with a view to the benefit of those Africans, as soon as this can be done without inconvenience.

At the same time, with regard to your Excellency's statement that the Imperial Government continue to think that the terms of that Decree provide, as much as is possible under present circumstances, for the emancipation of the Africans to whom it relates, I beg leave to observe that according to the information which I have quite recently received, there are a great many free Africans who, partly from the impediments thrown in their way by their actual masters, and partly in consequence of the difficulties which are offered by the formalities of petitioning required by the Decree, are unable to achieve their emancipation, and that I am therefore still further confirmed in the opinion which I have taken the liberty of expressing in my previous notes, that an early modification of that Decree would be desirable.

But whilst I repeat that I am convinced that Her Majesty's Government will receive with pleasure the above-mentioned assurance in your Excellency's note of the 18th instant, on the subject of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last, I do not think that they will be disposed to recognise the analogy which your Excellency seeks to draw in your note of the 15th instant, and upon which you, in great part, found your arguments as opposed to those contained in mine of the 15th of May, between the condition of the free Africans employed in the public departments and establishments, and that of the colonist, the orphan, the soldier, and the sailor, who serve for pay.

The condition of the former appears to me, on the contrary, to be quite dissimilar.

Whatever contracts may be entered into by the colonist are in virtue of his own free will, and are generally, I believe, for a limited period, and, although on quitting his native country he may originally have determined not to return to it for good, it not unfrequently happens that he does so. The period when the orphan attains his majority is definite and legally fixed. The soldier and the sailor either enlist or are enrolled, according to the legislation of the country to which they may belong, for a limited number of years, at the expiration of which they are at perfect liberty.

But what is the condition of an African in the position of one of those employed in the Imperial public departments?

He has been torn from his own country years ago, and transported to a distant and foreign land. There, having been declared free, he remains to all intents and purposes a slave, his emancipation being indefinitely adjourned, and made dependent upon his reexportation. It may fairly, however, be questioned whether that reexportation will ever take place, when it is considered that nearly twenty-three years have elapsed since, in the Brazilian Law of the 7th of November, 1831, the intention of reexporting the Africans illegally introduced into the Empire was announced; that during that long interval nothing has been done to carry that intention into effect, but that, on the contrary, your Excellency informed me, in your note of the 3rd of February last, that invincible difficulties had hitherto prevented its realization. Under these circumstances I consider that I am fully justified in my assertion that the free Africans in question, among whom your Excellency admits there are

some, although few, emancipated by the Mixed Commission established under the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, are not in a condition analogous to that of the class of persons referred to by your Excellency in your note of the 15th instant.

With regard to the statement contained in your Excellency's note of the 8th of May last, and alluded to in your note of the 15th instant, that the same Africans were to receive, after fourteen years' service, a salary to be awarded to them, I beg to observe that, if I am correctly informed, they receive indiscriminately in some of the public establishments, besides clothes and food, a small allowance of 80 reis per diem, whilst, in other such establishments, no pecuniary payments are made to them. It thus appears that the measure announced by your Excellency has not yet been carried out.

In thus offering these remarks, in reply to your Excellency, I beg to add, that I am by no means insensible to the considerations of public order which may render precautionary measures advisable in respect to the manumission of so large a body as that of the liberated Africans in the public service, if their reexportation is not to be effected; but it may be supposed that, as they have been for so great a length of time under the immediate control of the Imperial authorities, their training and education, in order to prepare them for full liberty, would have been duly attended to.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 134.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 28, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to me on the 25th instant, in which he still makes some observations upon the necessity of modifying the Decree of the 28th of December last, in order to ensure the complete emancipation of those Africans who are employed by private individuals, and the condition of those who serve in the public establishments.

Having addressed myself to the Minister of Justice respecting the subject of this note, I reserve, until I shall have heard from his Excellency, an opportune reply thereto to Mr. Howard, to whom I renew, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 134.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that, having transmitted to the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, copies of your Excellency's note to me of the 8th of May last on the question of the emancipation of the free Africans, and of my note in reply of the 15th of the said month, I have received a despatch from his Lordship instructing me to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the observations contained in my note in question respecting the condition of the free Africans, and that Her Majesty's Government take the strongest interest in the fate of this unfortunate class of persons, and feel bound to secure for them all the protection and privileges to which they are entitled.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 135.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th of June last, I this day conveyed in a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the measures taken by the Brazilian Government, in order to intercept a schooner which was expected to arrive in the neighbourhood of Tramandahy from the coast of Africa, with a cargo of slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 136.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th of July last, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have this day expressed in a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the zeal and vigilance displayed by the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburgh, in preventing the employment for the Slave Trade of the Brazilian vessel called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which arrived at Bremen in April last, for the purpose of being fitted out as a slaver.

I may remark that the vessel in question is notorious in the annals of Brazilian slave-trading.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 137.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

AMONGST the observations in the Chevalier de Macedo's note of the 27th of June last to your Lordship, on the subject of Viscount Palmerston's speech in the House of Commons on the question of the repeal of the Act of Parliament of 1845, a copy of which note, and of your Lordship's reply of the 6th of July, your Lordship has been so good as to forward to me in your despatch of the 8th of the same month, I remark that he takes credit to the Brazilian Government for modifying their customs' tariff in a manner favourable to the consumption of English goods, and for granting the demands of Her Majesty's Government relative to the property of Englishmen dying intestate in Brazil.

Upon the first point, I beg leave to remark, that from the information which has been furnished to me by English merchants here, it appears that since the expiration of our Commercial Treaty with Brazil of 1827, when British goods became liable to a duty double that to which they were subjected under the Treaty, no essential modification of the Brazilian tariff profitable to British merchandise has taken place.

With regard to the second point, if the Chevalier de Macedo means

to imply, as appears from his note, that the Brazilian Government have yielded to the requests of Her Majesty's Government on the question of inheritances, he is in strange ignorance of the real state of the case; and either cannot have received, or must have overlooked, the report presented to the Legislature on the 15th of May last, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of his own country, in which Senhor Limpo de Abreu refers to the still unsatisfied demands of Her Majesty's Government on the subject, and publishes some of the correspondence of Her Majesty's Legation here with the Brazilian Foreign Department. If the Chevalier de Macedo could be the means of settling this question as satisfactorily as he seems to think it has already been arranged, he would confer a great benefit upon Her Majesty's subjects residing in this country, as well as upon Her Majesty's servants who, for the last nine years, have been labouring in vain to induce the Brazilian Government to accede to the reasonable wishes of Her Majesty's subjects.

Your Lordship having completely refuted, in your reply, the arguments by which M. de Macedo has sought to disprove Viscount Palmerston's observations, attributing the cessation of the Slave Trade in Brazil to the operation of the Act of 1845, and to its more stringent enforcement in 1850 and 1851, I will only take the liberty of remarking that his Lordship's opinions, as confirmed by the expression of your Lordship's own views, are those of all the many foreign residents in this country with whom I have conversed on the subject, and that their accuracy is admitted by all the impartial Brazilians I have met. Moreover, I am confident that the greatest part of those Brazilians who think it patriotic publicly to deny their justice, are internally convinced of it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 138.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

AS bearing upon the subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of February last, and of my despatches of the 10th and 12th of April,* I have the honour to inclose the translation of a motion made yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies by Senhor Wanderley, President of the Province of Bahia, and ordered to be taken into consideration, proposing a project of law prohibiting the conveyance of slaves from one province of the Empire to the other, with the exception of those travelling with their masters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 138.

Extract from the "Jornal do Comercio" of Rio de Janeiro, of August 11, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Chamber of Deputies, in the first part of this morning's order of the day, judged various projects worthy of consideration, and amongst them the following:

"The General Legislative Assembly resolves—

"Article 1. The dealing in and conveyance of slaves from any one to another Province of the Empire is prohibited, under the penalties of the Law No. 581 of the 4th of September, 1850. Those slaves are excepted

who travel in company with their respective owners, not exceeding the number mentioned in the Government regulations.

“Art. 2. All provisions to the contrary are hereby revoked.

“*Palace of the Chamber of Deputies, August 11, 1854.*

(Signed) “J. M. WANDERLEY.”

No. 139.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction of inclosing herewith translation of a project of law proposed yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies by Senhor Wanderley, the President of the Province of Bahia, and ordered to be taken into consideration, providing that the owners of slaves who shall grant freedom to such of them as may not be able to maintain themselves in consequence of old age or disease, shall not be exempted from the obligation of supporting them, and that slaves who beg for alms, with the consent of their masters, shall, *ipso facto*, be considered as free.

The benevolent object of this motion on the part of Senhor Wanderley, in his quality of Deputy, is to remedy the abuses which, I am sorry to learn, are not unfrequent, of masters freeing their slaves when their services are no longer of any value, and thus turning them adrift destitute, as well as of masters sending out their slaves to beg for the profit of such masters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 139.

Extract from the “Jornal do Commercio” of Rio de Janeiro, of August 11, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Chamber of Deputies in the first part of this morning’s order of the day, judged various projects worthy of consideration, and amongst them the following :

“The General Legislative Assembly resolves—

“Article 1. Freedom granted to those slaves who may not be able to maintain themselves with the produce of their labour, in consequence of old age, and prolonged or incurable disease, does not exempt their owners from the obligation of supporting them, unless they are absolutely without the pecuniary means for doing so.

“Art. 2. Those slaves who beg with the consent of their owners, will, from that fact, be considered free, although they may not be similarly circumstanced as those mentioned in the foregoing Article.

“Art. 3. The Judges of Orphans are to compel those owners of whom the first Article treats, to maintain the manumitted slaves, or to grant them an alimentary pension, if they should be placed in charitable establishments; and are to grant certificates of freedom to those slaves of whom the second Article treats.

“Art. 4. All other provisions to the contrary are hereby repealed.

“*Palace of the Chamber of Deputies, August 11, 1854.*”

(Signed) “J. M. WANDERLEY.”

No. 140.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th of May,* inclosing a copy of my note of the 5th of that month to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting an advertisement offering for sale a young African negress, who from her age ought to be entitled to her liberty, and of which note your Lordship has done me the honour to express your approbation in your despatch of the 1st ultimo, I have the honour to inclose copies of two further notes, dated the 17th and 18th ultimo, which I addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, calling his attention to two other advertisements of the sale of Africans, who likewise, from the ages attributed to them, must have been imported into Brazil in contravention of the Treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Brazil, and of the Brazilian Law of 1831, and urging the Imperial Government to take effective measures to put an end to this Traffic.

I likewise beg to inclose translations of three notes which I have received from Senhor de Abreo, dated the 18th, 28th, and 29th ultimo, and of their inclosures; the first in reply to mine, dated the 5th of May, respecting the young negress; the second, in reply to mine of the 17th of July; and the third informing me that he has referred my note of the 18th of that month to the Minister of Justice.

Your Lordship will perceive from these notes, that both the young negress and the Africans mentioned in my note of the 17th ultimo, are represented to have been above the age attributed to them, having been stated to be younger in order to improve their sale, and consequently not necessarily imported since the Law of 1831.

There is an observation in my above note to the effect that I had called the attention of the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires, the Chevalier d'Oliveira, to some suspicious cases of the sales of Africans of the age of 24 and 25, by order of the Portuguese Consul-General.

It is necessary that I should state that the Chevalier d'Oliveira, who is a professed enemy to the Slave Trade, after having made the necessary inquiries, informed me that the sales in question had taken place in liquidation of a Portuguese inheritance, and in cooperation with the Brazilian authorities, and that as the Africans in question were beyond the age which would have rendered their importation since 1831 a certainty, no objection could be offered, but that I might rest assured the Portuguese Consul-General would never participate in any sale of Africans introduced into Brazil subsequently to that period.

I have been induced to take up these cases with the Brazilian Government, not from any exaggerated hope of really putting an end to similar illegal sales, but from the wish to deprive the slave-traders of that encouragement which so public and patent a violation of the law could not have failed to afford to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 140.
Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

IN my note of the 5th of May last, to which I have not yet had the pleasure of receiving a definitive reply from your Excellency, I had the honour of calling your attention to the public advertisement for sale in this capital of a negress, an African, of from 18 to 20 years of age, who must necessarily have been imported into the Empire since the publication

of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, and who is consequently entitled to her liberty.

I now beg to inclose to your Excellency the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 15th instant, in which you will observe another advertisement of a sale by the auctioneer J. Bonis, of certain slaves, the property of Senhor José Thomas Lopes, amongst whom are mentioned, Antonio (Cabinda), 23 years of age, Manoel (Benguella), 22 years of age, Antonio (Cabinda), 24 years of age.

From this statement of the ages of the Africans thus offered for sale it follows that it is clear that the one of 22 years of age must have been imported since 1831, that it is next to certain that the one of 23 years of age likewise was so, and that there is every reason to suppose that the one of 24 years of age was also a fresh importation subsequently to that period. As the sale was to take place on the same day, the 15th instant, I took immediate means of bringing this advertisement to the knowledge of the Chief of Police and of the Minister of Justice, and I am convinced that his Excellency will have ordered the necessary investigations and measures, amongst which the deposit of the Africans in question until the affair is elucidated, and the prosecution of the guilty parties, will no doubt be included. But I think it my duty likewise to call your Excellency's attention to the subject, in order that you may, if you should think proper, submit it to the Imperial Council of Ministers, so that effectual means may be devised and adopted of putting an end to such flagrant violations of the laws of the Empire as are perpetrated by the sale or reduction to slavery of Africans entitled to their liberty.

The Imperial Government are making strenuous efforts to suppress the Slave Trade by preventing the importation into this country of fresh Africans; but I beg to observe that if Africans illegally imported into this country can with impunity be sold by public auction in the capital of the Empire, such a circumstance cannot fail to encourage the slave-traders to run additional risks in braving those humane efforts on the part of the Imperial Government.

This branch of the Slave Trade, therefore, viz., the sale or reduction to slavery of Africans imported since the Law of 1831, appears to me equally to merit the serious attention of the Imperial Government—an attention which, I feel persuaded, it will meet with at their hands.

I beg further to remark that from what I learn from different quarters, I am inclined to think that the public are not sufficiently aware of the penalties incurred by those individuals who sell or purchase Africans of the class to which this despatch refers.

I likewise think it right to add that the same journal contains another advertisement of the sale by the same auctioneer, by order of the Consul-General for Portugal, of a number of slaves amongst whom there are two Africans, Cezar (Benguella), and Joaquim (Mina), both 24 years of age, beside another 25 years old, Mathias (Quillimane), to whose cases, as being of a suspicious nature, I have called the attention of the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 140.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 18, 1854.

AS another proof of the extensive manner in which that branch of the Slave Trade which forms the subject of my note of yesterday's date, and to which I had the honour of calling your Excellency's attention as early as my note of the 5th of May, is publicly carried on in this capital under the eyes of the central authorities of the Empire, I beg to inclose herewith an advertisement by the auctioneer C. Bittancourt, annexed to the "Jornal do Commercio" of this day, offering for sale to-day an African Affonso (Mina), 22 years of age, who must have been imported

since the Brazilian Law of 1831, and another Guilherme (Mozambique), 23 years of age, who, it is next to a certainty, must likewise have been a fresh importation subsequently thereto.

At the same time I have the honour again to urge the Imperial Government, through your Excellency, to take effective measures to put down this disgraceful Traffic, not less criminal or illegal than the importation of Africans.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 140.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 18, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. Howard, &c., addressed to me on the 5th of last May, calling my attention to an advertisement in the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 3rd of the same month, offering for hire or sale, in the Rua do Sabão, No. 161, an African negress ("de nação," as is therein stated), of from 18 to 20 years of age.

Having requested from the Minister of Justice the necessary information on this subject, his Excellency has furnished me with that which appears in the despatch of the Chief of the Police of this capital, dated the 22nd of May, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit herewith to Mr. Howard, and by which it is seen that, besides other circumstances, the said negress is more than 24 years old, and not between 18 and 20, as was stated in the advertisement of the "Jornal;" the object of this reduction of age being (as the person who ordered the advertisement to be published, declared to the Chief of the Police) to call the attention of purchasers to the said negress; it being therefore impossible to confound her with Africans recently imported, she not having been introduced since the abolition of the Traffic.

Having thus answered the above-mentioned note of Mr. Howard, I renew to him, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 140.

The Chief of Police to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

*Police Office of the Capital,
May 22, 1854.*

IN reply to the instruction of the 10th instant, accompanying the copy of the note which was addressed by the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty, on the 5th of this month, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with reference to an advertisement in the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 3rd of the said month, by which an African negress, from 18 to 20 years of age, was offered for hire or sale, and in which instruction your Excellency directs me immediately to investigate the matter of that note, and to take for this end the necessary measures, and to report thereon accordingly; I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that the negress referred to in that advertisement being the slave of Doña Isabel da Costa Arpalhão, married, secondly, to João Martins de Paiva, was by him bestowed to his daughter-in-law, Clara Isabel Tavares, in 1847, on the occasion of her marriage with José Mendes d'Almeida, and was sold by her, with the consent of her husband, in November of last year, to Manoel José de Faria, who, having come before me, delivered to me the respective documents of the tax paid long before the date of that advertisement, and the competent register thereof, from which it appears that the said negress is called Felicidade, and is more than 24 years of age, and not between 18 and 20, as was said in the advertisement, solely with the object,

according to the statement of the person who advertised, of calling more attention to her on the part of purchasers.

Not satisfied with these researches, I summoned before me the said negress, who certainly was more than 24 years old in appearance, and speaking the Portuguese language perfectly, and in such a manner as to pass easily for a creole, declared to me that she had come here when a very young child, and in company with her mother, likewise a slave of the above-named Doña Isabel.

In consequence of what has been stated, your Excellency will admit that this African cannot, in any way, be confounded with Africans recently imported, neither can it be said, with reason, even that she was imported after the abolition of the Traffic.

(Signed) JOSE DE ANDRADE CAMARA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 140.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 28, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which, under the date of the 17th instant, was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., transmitting to me the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 15th instant, in which was published the advertisement of a sale by auction of some slaves belonging to José Thomas Lopez, amongst whom mention is made of Antonio (Cabinda), aged 23 years, Manoel (Benguella), aged 22, and Antonio (Cabinda), aged 24 years, who are supposed by Mr. Howard, even the latter, to have been imported since the date of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831.

As that sale was to have taken place on the same date, the 15th, Mr. Howard had immediately caused the Chief of the Police and the Minister of Justice to be apprised thereof; and expressed his conviction that his Excellency would have ordered the necessary investigations to be set about, and the three Africans in question to be placed in deposit until this affair should be elucidated, and those who should be found guilty to be prosecuted.

Mr. Howard, notwithstanding his having taken those steps, calls my attention to this subject, in order that measures may be adopted for putting an end to those flagrant transgressions of the law of the Empire, from the fact of Africans being reduced to slavery who have a right to their freedom; and the more so, because impunity in those cases cannot but encourage the slave-dealers to run the risk, and scoff at the efforts of the Imperial Government to prevent and repress their importation into the Empire.

From the inclosed records of the proceedings of the Chief of the Police of this capital, which were transmitted to me by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Howard will see the reason why the said slaves were stated to be younger than they are, the result of the statements of the experienced examiners being that they are more than 30 years old.

Therefore, as the observations of Mr. Howard concerning the condition of these Africans are inapplicable to their cases, the Imperial Government do not see the necessity of adopting any measures in this respect.

Mr. Howard, however, refers in his note to another advertisement inserted in the same "Jornal," of the sale by auction, by order of the Portuguese Consul-General, of a certain number of Africans, Cezar (Benguella), Joaquim (Mina), both of 24 years of age, and Mathias (Quilimane), of 25; and as I have already communicated that additional information to the Minister of Justice, I shall wait his Excellency's elucidations, in order, with them, to address Mr. Howard, notwithstanding that, from the ages ascribed to the said Africans, these cannot be comprised in the number of those imported since the Law of 1831.

As to Mr. Howard's former note of the 5th of last May, relative to

the public sale of a female African who Mr. Howard also supposed was so circumstanced as to be entitled to her liberty, an answer thereto has been anticipated by the note which I had the honour to address to him under the date of the 18th instant.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Record of the Interrogatory of José Bonis.

(Translation.)

On the 17th day of July, of the year 1854, in this capital of Rio de Janeiro, and in the Police Office, by virtue of an order of Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, Chief of the Police, *ad interim*, appeared José Bonis, and the said Chief of Police interrogated him as follows:—

Being asked to tell his name, age, nationality, and profession: he replied, that his name is José Bonis; is 45 years old; a native of France; is an auctioneer, licensed by the Tribunal of Commerce of this city.

Being asked where he resides, and how long he has dwelt there: he replied, that he resides at No. 75, in the Rua de Rosario, and has his sale-rooms at No. 90, in the Rua do Ouvidor.

Being asked who was the author of the advertisement of “the extraordinary sale by auction,” published in the “Jornal do Commercio” of Saturday, the 15th instant: he replied, that it was himself who had it inserted, by order of the Portuguese Consul.

Being further asked whether he effected that public sale: he replied, that he had.

Being further asked whether that sale by auction comprehended the slaves Antonio (Cabinda), of 25 years of age, and Manoel (Benguella), of 22 years of age, both sailors and steersmen; whether they were sold, and to whom, or whether they are still in his possession: he replied, that the advertisement, in that part which relates to those two slaves, was not made by him, but by their owner, José Thomas Lopes, who handed the note to his (José Bonis’) clerk, which only contained their names, nationalities, and ages, whereas the letter of instructions, to the best of his recollection, made no mention of the ages of those slaves, who were purchased by the widow Lages and Campos, residing at No. 119, in the Rua Direita; he, the respondent being of opinion that his clerk inadvertently stated those slaves to be younger than they are, because he thinks they are from 28 to 30 years old, but had seen them only during the act of putting them up for sale by auction, of which, with the consent of the agent of the Portuguese Consulate, they formed the principal part, as is seen in the final part of the said advertisement.

And no further question having been put to him, the said Chief of Police ordered this interrogatory to be closed, and has signed it along with the person interrogated.

I, Firmino José da Silva Veiga, amanuensis in the Police Office, have written this.

(Signed)

RESENDE.
J. BONIS.

(Translation.)

The officer (alcalde) of the Police is to summon the widow Lage Campos, who resides at No. 119, in the Rua Direita, José Thomas Lopes, and José Bonis, to appear before me to-morrow morning, at 10 o’clock, and to desire the first above named to bring the slaves Antonio (Cabinda) and Manoel (Benguella), who were bought at the sale effected by José Bonis, on Saturday last.

Police Office of the Capital, July 17, 1854.

(Signed)

RESENDE.

I certify that I summoned the defendants, José Bonis and José Thomas Lopes, personally, and brought to their knowledge the whole contents of the order, and further that I went to the counting-house of the widow Lage and Campos, in the Rua Direita, and summoned them by letter, not being certain whether they were on the Island of Enchadas or at San Clemente.

Rio de Janeiro, June 18, 1854.

(Signed)

JOAO CORREIA DOS SANTOS,
Alcalde of the Police.

Record of Appearance, Interrogatory and Examinations.

(Translation.)

On the 18th day of July of the year 1854, in this capital of Rio de Janeiro, and in the Police Office, by virtue of an order of Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, Chief of the Police, came and appeared before him Antonio Martins Lage, José Bonis, and José Thomas Lopes, the first of whom produced the slaves Antonio (Cabinda), and Manoel (Benguella), stating that they were the same that he had purchased at the auction on Saturday last, made by the second named person, who also said that they were the same slaves, which was also confirmed by the third named person, that is, that they were delivered to be sold without mention being made of the ages stated in the advertisement, they appearing to be older, and that the statement in the advertisement was caused by a mistake of his clerk, who arbitrarily represented them in a note as being younger than they are truly. And Agostinho do Nascimento Petra and Joaquim José Alves de Fonseca being present, they were named and sworn in to serve as examiners, and to state whether the slaves also present are ladinos, how old they are, or appear to be; and they having immediately proceeded upon the said examination, after interrogating and examining them, declared that the two slaves speak the Portuguese language fluently, are ladinos, and that both of them stated that they had long since come from their country, and were then very young, and that both appear to be upwards of thirty years of age. Wherefore the said Doctor, Chief of the Police, ordered the foregoing to be recorded, and has signed the present along with the other persons before named.

I, Firmino José da Silva Veiga, amanuensis in the Police Office, have written it.

RESENDE.
ANTONIO M. LAGE.
J. BONIS.
JOSE THOMAS LOPES.
JOAQUIM JOSE ALVES DA FONSECA.
AGOSTINHO DO NASCIMENTO PETRA.

Inclosure 6 in No. 140.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 29, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which on the 18th instant was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., touching the advertisement published in the "Jornal do Commercio" of that date, of the sale by auction of two Africans—Affonso (Mina), and Guilherme (Mozambique), the first of 22 and the second of 23 years of age, who are supposed by Mr. Howard to have been illegally imported since the publication of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831.

Awaiting the information which I have requested the Minister of Justice to furnish me with on this subject, and with which I may be enabled to return a suitable answer to Mr. Howard, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 141.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith translation of a note addressed to me on the 12th instant by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, acquainting me that the information which had been communicated by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, relative to an alleged landing of Africans on the coast of that Province, on the 12th of June last, had been shown to be without foundation.

Mr. Vereker had transmitted to me at the time copies of his correspondence with the President, and I had expressed to him my approval of the notes which he addressed to his Excellency on that occasion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

 Inclosure in No. 141.
Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

HER Britannic Majesty's Consul in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul communicated to the President of that province information that on the 11th and 12th of the month of June last, a landing of Africans took place at the bar of a stream which he calls Iguay, on the frontiers of that province, within a short distance of the town of Torres, adding that according to the information received by him, the Africans had been conveyed by a vessel from the coast of Africa, and put on board of a schooner, from which they were landed at the above-mentioned place, and were immediately distributed and conveyed inland.

The President of the said province, having previously been apprised by the Minister of Justice of a projected disembarkation of Africans at that place, issued immediate orders for steps to be taken to prevent it.

According to the reports received from two officers charged with the police of the coast, and who were sent to ascertain the correctness of the facts stated, it appears that no such disembarkation had been effected; but the President of the province, suspecting that it might have taken place at the bar of the Araringuá, in the Province of Santa Catharina, sent thither, without loss of time, another officer of police, with part of a detachment from the town of Torres, not only for the purpose of inquiring into these facts but also to prevent a disembarkation if the suspected vessel should approach that place, and with orders not to leave it until relieved by a person enjoying the confidence of the President of Santa Catharina, to whom he had communicated the information received and the measures he had taken.

From what I now bring to the knowledge of Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., by this communication, he will see that the information given by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul respecting the disembarkation of Africans at the River Iguay, in the first of the above-mentioned provinces, where no river exists under that denomination, is groundless; which is further confirmed by the reports received by the Imperial Government from the commanders of our cruisers on the coasts of the said provinces.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 142.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of August,* inclosing copies of further correspondence which had taken place between Senhor Limpo de Abreo and yourself on the case of the free negro John, whom you suspected to have been illegally reduced to slavery, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 143.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of August,† in which you bring forward the case of the emancipated negro Hilario, who was detained in the House of Correction by the Brazilian Government, and thereby prevented from earning his livelihood by the free exercise of his trade; and I have to state to you in reply, that I approve your application to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and also your intention to attend to this matter, as it is one that should be inquired about and carefully watched.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 144.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 2, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th of August,‡ inclosing copies of further correspondence with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans, I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings as therein reported.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 145.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 3, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th August§ in which you point out the inaccuracy of certain statements made by the Chevalier de Macedo, in his note to me of the 27th of June last, I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of remarking to Senhor Limpo de Abreo upon the unfounded nature of the observations on commercial matters which M. de Macedo thought proper to address to me in that note.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 132.

† No. 133.

‡ No. 134.

§ No. 137.

No. 146.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 12th of August,* inclosing the projects of two laws proposed in the Chamber of Deputies by the President of the Province of Bahia, one prohibiting the conveyance of slaves from one province to another, the other having for its object the improvement of the condition of old and infirm negroes; and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government would learn with great satisfaction the passing of such laws, which would do honour to the Government and Legislature of Brazil.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 147.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 5, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of August,† with its inclosures, and I have in reply to express to you my entire approval of the notes which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 17th and 18th of July, respectively, calling his Excellency's attention to two advertisements which had been published in Rio de Janeiro, offering for sale African negroes, who, from their ages, must have been introduced into Brazil since the year 1831, in contravention of the Treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Brazil, and in violation of Brazilian law.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 148.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 18, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th instant,‡ in which was inclosed a copy of my note of that day's date to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, communicating your Lordship's approval of my despatch of the 15th of May last, on the condition of the liberated Africans employed in the Brazilian public service, and conveying the strong interest which Her Majesty's Government take in the fate of those individuals, I have the honour of transmitting herewith translation of a note of the 12th instant, which I received yesterday in reply from his Excellency, referring to the statements in his former note of the 15th ultimo, translation of which was forwarded in my above-mentioned despatch of the 10th August, in respect to the non-emancipation of the Africans in question until their reexportation, and adding that the

* Nos. 138 and 139.

† No. 140.

‡ No. 134.

Imperial Government likewise take full interest in them, and will endeavour to protect them as effectually as they can. His Excellency does not, however, announce any specific measure for their benefit.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 148.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which was addressed to me on the 10th instant by Mr. H. F. Howard, &c., in which he informs me of having brought to the knowledge of his Government a copy of my note of the 8th of May upon the question of the emancipation of the freed Africans, and of his reply dated the 15th of the same month, and stating that he had received instructions to acquaint me that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty entirely approved of the observations contained in Mr. Howard's above-mentioned note relative to the condition of the said freed Africans; Mr. Howard concluding with the expression that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty take the greatest interest in the fate of this unfortunate class of individuals, and that they consider themselves bound to ensure to them the full protection and privileges to which they have a right.

I have already had the honour to explain, in my former note of the 15th of July last, the reasons upon which the Imperial Government found themselves for considering that the freed Africans who are employed in the public departments are not comprehended in the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, as to the exemption from service to which they are obliged, even after fourteen years, until their reexportation be effected, they earning, after the expiration of that term, wages to be awarded to them; and I have now only to add, that the Government of His Majesty the Emperor also take full interest in favour of these individuals, and will endeavour to protect them as effectually as they can.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 149.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 19, 1854.

IN order that your Lordship may be acquainted with the language which has been employed in the Brazilian Parliament concerning the maintenance by Her Majesty's Government of the British Act of Parliament of 1845 relative to the Brazilian Slave Trade, I beg to inclose a summary of a speech held in the Senate on the 14th instant by Senhor Montezuma, commenting, in very unmeasured terms, on the course pursued by Her Majesty's Government in not consenting to the repeal of that Act.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Montezuma suggests that, with a view to induce Her Majesty's Government to alter their course, an appeal should be made by Brazil to foreign Governments to pronounce themselves against that course, and that he concludes by requesting the Minister for Foreign Affairs to devise some means of forcing Her Majesty's Government to deliver Brazil from the ignominious position in which she

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is placed; adding that, whatever those means might be, they would be supported by the Brazilian Parliament.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, did not make any reply to this speech.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 149.

Summary of part of the Speech delivered by Senhor Montezuma, in the Brazilian Senate, August 14, 1854.

(Translation.)

SENHOR MONTEZUMA, after treating of other subjects, said, that he would only make a few remarks respecting the external policy of Brazil in general; that the President of the Senate would recollect that what he had now to say had already been said by him during the debates on the answer to the speech from the Throne; that he had then offered for consideration all that, in his opinion, was important relative to those nations with which Brazil is at peace, and to some negotiations which, according to his belief, are still pending. That amongst them he would remind the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the pending negotiation between Brazil and the British Government for the abolition of the Bill known under the name of the "Aberdeen Bill;" that the abolition of that Bill appeared to him, the orator, to be not only an act of rigorous justice, but also of extraordinary urgency; that there being neither any reason, in the opinion of every civilized Government, excepting that of Great Britain, nor in accordance with the principles of the rights of nations, for the maintaining of that Act, it appeared to him that justice demanded its repeal; that if the existence of that Bill could not be termed an act of spitefulness, an insult, or a luxury of insult, and of prepotency exercised against the Brazilian nation, he did not know what name to give it; that it was maintained, on the occasion of the passing of that Act of the British Parliament, that the Slave Trade was being carried on in the Empire, that the Treaties were violated, that the Brazilian Government did not pay attention to the remonstrances of the British Government, that a Treaty, or the draft of a Treaty, made with the Government (then a Regency) had not been approved by the Chambers (an indispensable circumstance for its being carried into effect), and that all these accumulated reasons were considered by the British Government as justifying the passing of that Bill, but that they all depended upon the continuance or cessation of the Slave Trade. But, he asked, what was now the position in which Brazil found herself? Why, the Slave Trade is completely extinguished, the Government strive, use every effort, and are most careful, not to put an end to the Slave Trade, which is extinct, but to prevent it, taking all sorts of precautions in order that it may not, in any shape, be revived. This good faith, he said, was recognised by the British Government themselves, their Agents resident in Rio de Janeiro had acknowledged it, and consequently there could not exist a shadow of doubt or suspicion on this subject. What remains, then? He asked, can the British Government suspect that the Brazilian nation will retrograde? that the Brazilian Government will break their faith? If such be their supposition they wrong the Brazilians, and wrong them gratuitously, and consequently they are the more to be censured for adhering to a line of conduct unworthy of a civilized Government like that of Great Britain, who say that they are friendly to Brazil. How is it, then, he asked, that this Bill still exists? How is it, therefore, that the just claim of the Brazilian Government is rejected? How is it that the honour, the dignity of Brazil, and the justice with which her Government insist upon the repeal of this Bill, still remain disregarded? How can the British Govern-

ment justify such a proceeding of theirs before all civilized Governments, and in the face of the rights of nations? What reasons can they give for their most exorbitant abuse of power? and ought not the voice of Parliament and of the Government, he asked, to make itself heard in all the corners of the civilized world, in all those quarters of the globe which justice and civilization have penetrated? The orator said he was convinced that, if this affair were brought before foreign Courts, if foreign Governments were to receive official communications invoking their opinions in respect to it, the judgment of every civilized Government would be unfavourable to the British Government; that the British Government, thus made ashamed by such positive and universal declaration, would have to state upon what principles of justice, on what pretext of foolish ambition and of arrogancy, they found their revolting tenacity in aiming at the degradation of a nation which has so great a desire to afford to Great Britain proofs of its interest and friendship. He further remarked, that this language would doubtless appear to the Senate acrimonious on the part of an orator who had never failed to observe due decency of expression and serious behaviour upon all those occasions in which affairs touching foreign nations had been treated of; and still the more so, from the propensity which he has constantly manifested to that nation which he considered worthy of his liveliest sympathy, and, from its national character, of the highest commendation; but that, if it be taken into consideration that he had never before expressed himself in such strong terms, and that he had a right to be most desirous for the discontinuance of that iniquitous specimen of injustice, whatever might have been the cause of the bashfulness which upon other occasions kept him silent, he ought now to be allowed, Brazil being at present differently circumstanced, to think it absolutely necessary that the most energetic claim possible should be raised by the Parliament, since the efforts of the Imperial Government are not sufficient for instilling into the minds of the British Government the necessity of respecting the justice, the honour, and the independence of the Brazilian nation.

Senhor Montezuma, in concluding his speech on this subject, requested the Minister for Foreign Affairs to devise some means for forcing the British Government to deliver Brazil from the "truly ignominious" state in which she found herself, adding that, whatever those means might be, the Minister would be supported by the Brazilian Parliament, as it became necessary to remove that stain, and the injurious effects of it.

No. 150.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 28, 1854.

A PORTUGUESE brig, the "*Experiencia*," arrived some time ago in this port. The fact of her having a double crew on board, and other suspicious circumstances, inducing the belief that she was intended for the Slave Trade, the Brazilian authorities, according to the private information which I have received, having had their attention called to these circumstances, caused a strict watch to be kept over her proceedings; and after having interrogated the captain and consignee, gave orders that the vessel should not be permitted to be cleared out for the coast of Africa or River Plate.

The consequence of these measures has been that the "*Experiencia*," of which Joaquim da Silva Reina is the master, sailed on the 25th instant for Hamburg, with a crew of ten men, and a legal cargo of coffee, after a close search had taken place on board of her previous to her departure.

Several suspicious characters who arrived here in her, but who have remained behind, are being watched by the police.

I have thought it right to give your Lordship this information, in case you should think it proper to have the vessel in question subjected to supervision at Hamburgh.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 151.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 1, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 10th ultimo,* I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the copy of a note which I addressed on the 17th of July last to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, urging the restoration to full liberty of Hilario, an African, who after having served his apprenticeship of fourteen years, and having obtained a certificate of emancipation in March of this year, was subsequently detained in the House of Correction, as well as of the other Africans similarly situated in the same establishment.

I have since received from his Excellency the note of the 22nd ultimo, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, informing me that the Minister of Justice had, on the 19th of the same month, issued orders that a fresh certificate of emancipation should be granted to Hilario, on certain conditions, with a view to his being placed in the possession of full liberty.

This note, however, not making any mention of the other Africans detained in the House of Correction under similar circumstances, I addressed on the 24th ultimo, to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the note of which the annexed is a copy, again claiming his Excellency's good offices in their behalf, in order that they may likewise, at length, obtain their promised emancipation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 151.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, August 22, 1854.

HAVING addressed myself to the Minister of Justice, in order that measures might be taken for restoring to full liberty the emancipated African Hilario (Congo), No. 77, of the cargo of the schooner "*Cæsar*," as requested by Mr. H. F. Howard, &c., in his note of the 17th of July last, his Excellency has just acquainted me, in his despatch of the 19th instant, that the said African has not been a prisoner, but has only been detained in the House of Correction, receiving a reasonable compensation for his services; and that suitable orders had, on that date, been issued for the granting to him of a fresh certificate of emancipation, with the condition that he is to reside in this capital, and follow some kind of trade, or take service on wages, he remaining in full liberty.

This is all that I have to say to Mr. Howard in answer to his above-mentioned note; and I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 151.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 24, 1854.

IN acknowledging the receipt of the note which your Excellency has done me the honour to address to me under date of the 22nd instant, I beg to express my best thanks for the welcome intelligence conveyed in it, that orders have been issued that a fresh certificate of emancipation should be granted to the African Hilario, treated of in my note of the 17th ultimo, and that he should, on certain conditions, be restored to full liberty.

With respect to the statement contained in your Excellency's note regarding the reception by Hilario of a reasonable compensation for his services during his detention in the House of Correction, I think that, upon further inquiry, your Excellency will find that, up to the date of my above-mentioned note of the 17th of last month, no payment had been made to him.

Moreover, as your Excellency does not make any mention in your note of the other numerous Africans referred to by me, who are in circumstances similar to those of Hilario—having served private individuals during fourteen years, and having been emancipated in virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last, but who are likewise detained in the House of Correction—I take this opportunity of again claiming your Excellency's good offices in their behalf, in order that they too may at length be placed in the enjoyment of their promised emancipation. I feel convinced that if it were known that such of these individuals as may not be able to establish themselves in a trade, are at liberty to take service on their own account, they would experience no difficulty, considering the scarcity and high price of labour at present, in finding employment and earning their livelihood in a manner not calculated to create any apprehension of their disturbing public tranquillity; and it is only fair to assume that they could count upon every assistance on the part of the Imperial authorities, to whom, however, I beg to suggest that instructions should be given in that sense.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 152.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 6, 1854.

IN addition to the correspondence exchanged between the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs and myself, on the subject of illegal sales of Africans entitled to their liberty, copies of which were inclosed in my despatch of the 12th ultimo,* I have the honour of transmitting herewith the translation of a further note of yesterday's date, which I have received from Senhor Limpo de Abreo, stating, with reference to the observations contained in my note of the 17th of July last to his Excellency, concerning certain Africans sold by order of the Consul-General of Portugal, the conviction of the Chief of Police of this capital, from the inquiries which he had instituted into their cases, that there was no plausible reason for supposing that they had been imported into this country since the publication of the Brazilian Law of the 7thth of November, 1831.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 152.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 5, 1854.

IN addition to the note which I addressed on the 28th July last to Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., in reply to his of the 17th of said month, in that part relative to the Africans Cesar (Benguella), Joaquim (Mina), and Mathias (Quillimane), the sale of whom at auction, by order of the Portuguese Consul-General, had been advertised in the number of the "Jornal do Commercio" which accompanied his said note, I have the honour to inform him, that even if the two first named should be 24, and the latter 25 years of age, as Mr. Howard states, it does not follow that they have been imported since the Law of the 7th of November, 1831; and to add further, that the Minister of Justice, of whom I requested information respecting the true age of those Africans, answered me on the 29th of last August, that the Chief of Police of this capital acquainted him, that after having taken the customary steps with regard to examinations and interrogatories, he was convinced that no plausible reason existed for judging that they had been imported since the publication of that law.

Now as there are no other infallible means of ascertaining with exactitude the ages of individuals placed in such circumstances, the Imperial Government consider that they cannot with justice proceed in any other manner until documents should be exhibited which would prove incontestably that the said three Africans were imported subsequent to the promulgation of that law.

The latter part of Mr. Howard's said note being thus replied to, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 153.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 8, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 24th of July last, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the publication of the Imperial Decree of the 5th of June of this year, sanctioning the Law passed by the Legislature for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 154.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th ultimo,* transmitting, amongst other correspondence, a copy of my note of the 25th of July last to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo d'Abreo, urging further proceedings against Senhor da Costa, who reduced the African John to slavery on the return of the latter to Rio Janeiro from the Cape of Good Hope, I have the honour to inclose herewith the translation of a note of the 5th instant, which I have

* No. 132.

received from his Excellency in reply, and from which your Lordship will perceive that the Imperial Government are unwilling to prosecute the affair.

I have likewise the honour of transmitting the copy of a note which I have this day addressed to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo in rejoinder, suggesting, with reference to his Excellency's remark that there is no law in this country which expressly considers Africans who have quitted Brazil for foreign countries to be free on their return to it, that the Imperial Government should take this question into their most attentive consideration with a view to clearing up all doubt concerning it, and to remedying, by legislative enactments, so serious a deficiency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 154.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 5, 1854.

I DULY brought to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice the contents of the note dated the 25th of July last, in which Mr. Henry Francis Howard, &c., still treating of the affair of the black man John, says that the authorities of the Empire had confined themselves to the statement made by Antonio Luiz da Costa, without endeavouring to ascertain to what extent he had committed himself by the fact of attempting to reduce the said negro to slavery.

I have now the honour to acquaint Mr. Howard, in reply to his above-mentioned note, that the Minister of Justice has just informed me that, according to the reports received from the competent authorities, the Imperial Government was convinced that nothing more could be done, the said Costa having alleged before the Court of Justice his ignorance as to the said negro's having been declared free at the Cape of Good Hope, and the Chief of the Police and the competent Judge having recognized the good faith with which the said Costa conducted himself in this affair, all of which appears from the documents inclosed in my note of the 19th of July last: besides which criminality in this case is doubtful, there being no law in this country which expressly considers Africans who have fled to foreign territories to be free upon their return to the Empire.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 154.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 5th instant, in which, in reply to mine of the 25th of July last, you state the reasons for which, in the opinion of his Excellency the Minister of Justice, no proceedings could be taken against Senhor da Costa, the alleged master of the African John, adding that, in the case in question, criminality is doubtful, as there is no law in this country which expressly considers Africans who have fled to foreign countries to be free on their return to Brazil.

In expressing my inability to acknowledge the validity of these reasons, I beg to remark that it appears that John did not flee from this country, but was captured by a British cruizer, whilst on a voyage to the coast of Africa with his first master.

Moreover, I had been led to believe that the actual legislation of this country fully met the case of John; but as your Excellency states that

there is no law which expressly declares Africans who have once been slaves in this country, to be free on their return to it, I take the liberty of suggesting that the Imperial Government, who have lately introduced such wise and comprehensive provisions into the legislation of the Empire for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, should take this question into their most attentive consideration, with a view to clearing up all doubt concerning it, and to remedying by legislative enactments so serious a deficiency.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 155.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a note of the 9th instant from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, inclosing to me copies of two reports of the 27th ultimo and 1st instant, addressed to him by the Presidents of the Provinces of Rio Grande do Sul and St. Catharine's respectively, the first transmitting the copy of a despatch of the 14th of August from Mr. Consul Vereker, and the second covering, amongst other documents, copies of a correspondence with Mr. Consul Callander, all relating to the question of the alleged landing of Africans on the coasts of those provinces.

As your Lordship will, however, have already, no doubt, received from Her Majesty's Consuls both at Rio Grande and St. Catherine's, copies of the correspondence in question, it will be unnecessary that I should trouble your Lordship with them.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo, in his above-mentioned note to me, says that I shall perceive from these papers, that all the accounts which have reached the said delegates of the Imperial Government, agree in denying the fact of such a disembarkation of Africans having taken place, as well as that the same authorities continue to exercise the strictest vigilance and care, in order to prevent the accomplishment of a crime so contrary to the laws and to civilization as the Traffic of Africans.

I have thanked his Excellency in a note of this day's date for his obliging communication.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 156.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

IT having come to my knowledge that cases had occurred of Brazilian marauders having entered the territory of the Oriental State of the Uruguay, and having carried off negroes and mulattoes, for the purpose of selling them in Brazil as slaves, which circumstance had given rise to representations to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs from the Envoy of the Oriental Republic here, Senhor Lamas, I called the attention of Mr. Vereker, Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande, to this subject, in the despatch of the 17th ultimo, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy; and I have received from him the reply of the 25th of the same month, a copy of which is likewise herewith transmitted, confirming the information that had reached me.

At an interview which I had with Senhor Limpo de Abreo yesterday, I alluded to this subject; and I learnt from him that he had replied to

Senhor Lamas, at the time, that instructions had been forwarded to the President of Rio Grande do Sul, with a view of putting a stop to these lawless and criminal proceedings; and that the result of the measures taken by that functionary was, that some of the kidnapped negroes had been recovered and replaced in liberty.

The "Diario" of Rio de Janeiro of the 5th instant announces the fact of a negress and four of her children, who had been stolen in the Oriental State, having been discovered by the authorities of Rio Grande, and their captors apprehended in that province; whilst active measures had been set on foot by the President of the same province, to find the traces of the negro belonging to the same family, who, it appears, had been led in a different direction.

On a comparison of dates and description, I find that the negress in question, with her family, corresponds to the one mentioned by Mr. Vereker as Rufina.

The same journal also mentions other similar cases which have occurred, of negroes having been carried off from the Oriental State into Brazil.

I observed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo that I had not addressed him officially on this question, as I was aware that the matter was in the hands of the Monte Videan Minister, but that I would leave with him an extract from Mr. Vereker's above-mentioned despatch, which I accordingly did.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 156.

Mr. Howard to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 17, 1854.

I UNDERSTAND that cases have occurred in which Brazilian marauders have entered the territory of the Oriental State of the Uruguay from the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, and have carried off negroes and mulatto children for the purpose of selling them in the Brazilian slave-markets, and I have to request you to obtain and transmit to me such information as you may be able to procure on the subject.

As I am informed that the Minister of the Oriental State at this Court has been directed to call the attention of the Imperial Government to this affair, I have no doubt that the President of the province where you reside will by this time have received some instructions on the subject, but since the above information was given me, I have not had an opportunity of seeing the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

You will observe that this is a case rather for a verbal than for a written inquiry of the President.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 156.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, August 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 17th instant, and have to state in reply that you are correctly informed with regard to the fact that various subjects of the Republic of the Uruguay have been seized with the view of being sold in Brazil into slavery. I have also to state that my anxious attention has been for some time directed to this subject, and in a report regarding slavery addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State on the 30th June last, I felt it my duty incidentally to allude to the existence of such acts of cruelty and injustice.

I am informed that a negress named Rufina, her paramour Mathews,

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her two sons and two daughters, all residents near Leivas, in the Oriental State, were seized by some Brazilians about six months since, and sold into slavery in this province.

I am also informed that on the 7th June last two sons, one daughter, and one step-son of Rosa, a negress residing in the department of Durasno in the adjoining Republic, were forcibly seized and brought to this province for sale.

My information leads me to think that these depredations are committed by an organised gang, who avail themselves of the difficulties experienced in the Republic of the Uruguay, where the extensive frontiers are not protected with a sufficient guard.

I have not had an opportunity to make a verbal communication on this subject to the President of this province, who resides at Porto Alegre, but shall not fail to do so should the occasion present itself.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 157.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st ultimo, and I have in reply to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 24th of August, respecting the emancipado Hilario, and other emancipados entitled to their freedom, who are still detained in the House of Correction at Rio de Janeiro.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 158.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 28, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of the representation which you have made to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, respecting the Brazilian marauders who have been kidnapping negroes in the State of Uruguay, and selling them in Brazil.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 159.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th ultimo,† and I have in reply to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on that day, respecting the case of the African named John.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 156.

† No. 154.

No. 160.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

NOTWITHSTANDING that I have repeatedly had occasion to communicate to your Lordship the denial by the Brazilian Government of the accuracy of the report of a landing of Africans in June last, on the coasts of the Province of St. Catherine's, or Rio Grande do Sul, I think it my duty to transmit herewith the translation of a note of the 15th instant, which I have received on the same subject from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and of its inclosures; viz., a despatch from the Commodore commanding the Brazilian Naval Station at Rio de Janeiro, and a report from the Commander of the Brazilian war-steamer "Recife," stating his persuasion that no such disembarkation of Africans had taken place during the period of his cruise.

I have acknowledged the receipt of his Excellency's communication in a note of this day's date, and acquainted him that I would transmit a copy of it to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 160.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 15, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., the inclosed despatch to the Rear-Admiral in charge of the head-quarters of the marine, from the Commodore commanding the naval station in Rio de Janeiro, inclosing copy of another from the Lieutenant commanding the war-steamer "Recife."

The Imperial Government called upon this Commander for information respecting the disembarkation of Africans, which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul stated to the President of the Province had taken place on the 11th or 12th of June last at a place which he named Iguay; and Mr. Howard will see that the Commander of the steamer, in giving a circumstantial account of all that happened during the time in which he was employed in cruising between the Island of St. Catherine's and Rio Grande do Sul, does not hesitate in manifesting to the Imperial Government his persuasion that no disembarkation of Africans took place whilst he was cruising on the coasts of the Provinces of Santa Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul.

This information, furnished by the Lieutenant commanding the "Recife" steamer, entirely agrees with that which has been transmitted to the Imperial Government, and which the Undersigned has already brought to the knowledge of Mr. Howard in his notes of the 12th of August last and of the 9th instant, and appears to confirm the inaccuracy of the rumours spread of the disembarkation of Africans, reported to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO

Inclosure 2 in No. 160.

Commodore Mariath to Rear-Admiral Mello e Alvim.

(Translation.)

*On board the steamer "Amazon,"*Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September 1, 1854.*

THE information given by the Commander of the steamer "Recife" in the inclosed despatch, fully demonstrates that the report of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande do Sul of a landing of Africans having taken place on the 11th or 12th of June of this year at a place named by him Iguay, is without foundation.

This information is corroborated by the reports made by the said Commander, and by those of the steamers "Pedro Segundo" and "Beberibe," which, since the middle of May, have cruized from Santa Catharina to the south, and who uniformly agree in asserting that no landing, nor any attempt of that nature, has been made in those quarters.

According to the report of the Commander of the "Recife," a national schooner, to which he gave chase and boarded one day in July, was beating during twelve days, in sight of the coast, against contrary winds, and this, in my opinion, is the origin of the report made to the English Consul, and which was transmitted by him to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERIC MARIATH,

Commodore, and Commanding the Station.

Inclosure 3 in No. 160.

Second Lieutenant Moreira to Commodore Mariath.

(Translation.)

*From on board the steamer "Recife," at*Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, August 30, 1854.*

IN virtue of the order addressed to me by your Excellency under yesterday's date, that I should, without delay, inform you where I was on the 11th and 12th of June last, as well as the steamer "Pedro Segundo," I have to state to your Excellency that on the above-mentioned days I was cruising on the coast to the southward of Santa Catharina, off the places comprehended between that island and some miles south of Cape Santa Martha Grande, and that I did not board any vessel, having met with none. There is, perhaps, a mistake with regard to the month, because in July, at about the same dates, whilst cruising off those places, I chased and boarded the national schooner "Cysne," belonging to Domingo Velloso de Oliveira, a merchant of Santa Catharina, Thomas Xavier de Souza, master, from Rio Grande to Santa Catharina, with produce of the country, which, from strong north-east winds, was beating up for more than twelve days in sight of the coast, and being in want of water, which I could not supply him with in consequence of bad weather, I advised him to go to Imbituba, he being to windward of that place, which lies to the northward of Laguna, and he reached it whilst I was in sight of that port. With regard to this schooner, I can assure your Excellency that she was not conveying Africans, and I am persuaded that, during the time that I was cruising on that coast, no disembarkation of Africans took place.

I also boarded the patacho "Emiliana" on the night of the 11th July off Tramandahy, which was bound to Rio Grande, and on the following day, passing within hail of many vessels which were hove-to off the bar of that port waiting for sufficient depth of water to enter it, the said schooner was also amongst them.

As to the steamer "Pedro Segundo," she was at anchor in the port of Santa Catharina. On the 4th instant, when I came to anchor in this port, I did not address your Excellency, having nothing further to observe than what I mentioned in the observations accompanying the report of the vessel, as well as in the despatch of the 23rd of July which I had previ-

ously addressed to your Excellency from Santa Catharina by the steamer "Prinzeza Leopoldina."

Herewith I have the honour to return to your Excellency the despatch of the 25th instant, and the copy of the 8th of same month, from the Minister of Foreign Affairs which accompanied, your Excellency's above-mentioned order.

God preserve, &c.

For the First Lieutenant, Commanding,
Delfino Carlos de Carvalho,
(Signed) JOSE DA CUNHA MOREIRA,
Second Lieutenant.

No. 161.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendón.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 12th ultimo and of the 6th instant,* I have the honour to transmit herewith the translation of a note, dated the 16th of this month, and of its inclosures, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, in reply to the last of the notes (dated the 18th of July last) which I addressed to his Excellency on the subject of the illegal sale of Africans, and of which a copy was inclosed in my first-named despatch of the 12th ultimo.

It will be seen from these papers that the Africans referred to in my note are, like all the rest, stated not to have been imported since the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, nor to be as young as they were represented.

If no other good should result from this correspondence, at least the public scandal will be avoided of the advertisement for sale of Africans whose stated ages imply their introduction since the Law in question, consequently their illegal importation into this country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 161.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 16, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has already had the honour of acknowledging the receipt of the note which Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to him on the 18th of July last, respecting the advertisement published in the "Jornal de Commercio" of that date, of the sale at auction of the two Africans Affonso (Mina) and Guilherme (Mozambique), the former of 22 and the latter of 23 years of age, whom Mr. Howard supposes to have been illegally imported since the Law of the 7th of November, 1831.

The Undersigned, in conformity with what he stated in his said note to Mr. Howard, requested the Minister of Justice to furnish him with information respecting the fact mentioned by Mr. Howard; and being now in possession of those elucidations, he has the honour of transmitting them to Mr. Howard in the herein inclosed copies; No. 1 containing the interrogatory, before the Chief of Police of this capital, of the auctioneer Castro Bitancourt, with respect to the sale of the said slaves Affonso and Guilherme; and No. 2 the record of the appearance, declarations, and minute examinations before the said magistrate concerning the said slaves.

From these documents Mr. Howard will see that the Africans in

* Nos. 140 and 152.

question were not imported since the before-mentioned Law of the 7th of November, 1831, and that it is also untrue that they are as young as is stated in the advertisement.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 161.

Interrogatory of José Joaquim Coelho Castro Bitancourt.

(Translation.)

IN the year 1854, and on the 2nd of September, in the Police Office of the capital, and before the Chief of that Department, Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, appeared José Joaquim Coelho Castro Bitancourt, by virtue of a summons of the said Chief, who put to him the following questions :

Being asked what is his name, his age, condition, profession, nationality, and residence : he replied, that his name is José Joaquim Coelho Castro Bitancourt ; that he is 32 years of age ; is a bachelor, a native of the Province of Minas ; is an auctioneer, and resides at No. 93 in the Rua de San Pedro.

Being further asked if the Africans named Affonso (Mina), 22 years old, and Guilherme (Mozambique), 22 years old, comprehended in the advertisement in the "Jornal de Commercio" of the 18th of July last, were sold, and to whom, and for whose account the auction was effected : he replied, that the said slaves were not sold, and were advertised for account and by order of Manoel Bernardes, who dwells in a warehouse in the Rua de San Pedro, No. 93, who is the owner of Affonso ; and that the slave Guilherme was delivered to him by José Antonio de Carvalho ; that he neither knows him nor the place of his residence, but supposes that he resides in the Rua dos Benedictinos, or in the Rua Nova de San Bento ; that both of the said slaves were returned to the said Bernardes, they not having been sold.

He further said that he advertised the sale of those slaves in consequence of written instructions from Manoel Bernardes and José Antonio de Carvalho, both dated the 18th of July last, which he exhibited, and remain in this office ; it being seen from them that both these slaves are 24 years of age.

And the Chief of the Police has ordered the above to be recorded, which he signs along with the respondent.

I, José Joaquim Ignacio de Almeida Lacerda, Amanuensis of the Police Office have written this.

(Signed)

RESENDE.

JOSE JOAQUIM COELHO CASTRO DE
BITANCOURT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 161.

Record of Appearance, Declaration, and Examinations.

(Translation.)

ON the 5th September, 1854, and in this Police Office of the capital, appeared before Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, Chief of the Police, Manoel Bernardes da Costa Silva and José Antonio de Carvalho, presenting the slaves Affonso, of the Mina nation, belonging to the former, and Guilherme, of the Mozambique nation, belonging to the latter ; saying that they were the persons who advertised, on the 18th of July last, the sale of them by auction at the sale-rooms of Castro Bitancourt ; and that the sale had not been effected, in consequence of no one choosing to bid the prices asked for them.

The former further declared, that he has been five years in possession

of the slave Affonso, having purchased him, when already a Ladino, from Manoel Antonio da Silva Pereira, as is seen from the title which he exhibits.

And the latter states that he has been about six years in possession of the slave Guilherme, having bought him at a public auction by order of the Dr. Judge of the orphans in this city, as is seen from the certificates of sale, of the tax paid, and from other documents exhibited by him, and which have been examined; both of the parties declaring that, with regard to the advertisement of their ages being of 22 and 23 years, those are not their ages, because Affonso, purchased on the 2nd of August, 1849, at the age of 20 years, as is seen in the bill of sale, must now be at least 25 to 26 years old, if not older, as is probable, and which is likewise seen in the receipt for the tax paid on the 29th of August, 1849; and that the slave Guilherme was purchased, when 27 years old, on the 20th of July, 1852, as is seen from the receipt of the tax paid on that date, and must now be about 29 years old.

They further declared that the statement in the advertisement of the said slaves being younger, doubtless happened for want of due reflection, and because it is the custom in public sales to mention probable ages, and always to make them out younger than they are, in order to effect more advantageous sales of them.

And Agostinho do Nascimento Petra and Joaquim José Alves da Fonseca being present, the Chief of the Police administered to them the oath on the Holy Evangelists, charging them to examine the said two slaves, and to state, on their consciences, whether they appeared to be of the ages mentioned in the advertisement, or if older, and in the latter case, to state what are their probable ages; and to examine, further, if they were imported after the Law of 1831, making inquiries for that purpose of the said slaves of the periods when they came to Brazil, in what vessels, where they landed, and who were their first masters; all of which they promised to comply with. And having made the said examinations and inquiries they declared that the slave Affonso must be from 28 to 30 years old, he having stated that he came from his country when very young; was landed at Bahia; that he does not remember the name of the vessel, nor of his first master. And that as to the slave Guilherme, he appears to be about 26 years old, and stated that he landed at Ponta do Caju, also when very young; does not remember the name of his first master, who resided in the Rua da Prainha. And they said nothing more.

And the Chief of Police ordered the foregoing to be recorded, and signs the same along with the presenters and surveyors.

I, José Ignacio de Lacerda, have written this.

(Signed)

RESENDE.

MANOEL BERNARDES DA COSTA E SILVA.

JOSE ANTONIO DE CARVALHO.

AGOSTINHO DO NASCIMENTO PETRA.

JOAQUIM JOSE ALVES DA FONSECA.

No. 162.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

THE Project of Law, of which I had the honour to inclose a copy in my despatch of the 12th ultimo,* brought into the Chamber of Deputies by Senhor Wanderley, President of the Province of Bahia, prohibiting the conveyance and transfer of slaves from one province of the Empire of Brazil to another, came under discussion in that Chamber, but was not voted upon previous to the close of the session of the Legislature on the 12th instant, and consequently stands over until the next session.

This proposition met with considerable opposition, principally from the members of the Southern Provinces, into which, as your Lordship is aware, large transfers of slaves have lately taken place from the Northern Provinces. Its adversaries contended that it would be impolitic, and moreover that it would be a violation of the rights of property guaranteed by the Constitution of the Empire, as it would prevent the owners of slaves from disposing of them, like other property, in the best market.

The supporters of the measure, on the other hand, denied the validity of this argument, saying, that the Constitution, it was true, guaranteed the rights of property, but that at the same time it expressly admitted of limitations in the exercise of those rights when required in the interest of the public good, a contingency which they contended was applicable to the case in point. One member likewise remarked, that such a limitation in respect to slave property already existed, because although a proprietor could kill his ox or his horse, he was not at liberty to slay his slave. Although the same members certainly brought forward in favour of the proposal the philanthropic considerations connected with the object of avoiding the separation of families, yet they principally founded their arguments upon the impolicy of withdrawing from the northern sugar-producing provinces the hands necessary for the cultivation of the soil, and thus exposing them to ruin, as also upon the danger of agglomerating a large number of slaves in the southern towns, where they might be easily replaced by free labourers, and in the southern provinces generally, where the coffee plantations required much less manual labour.

The opponents persisted in maintaining, however, that the measure would be unconstitutional, and in reply to the philanthropic considerations urged by its advocates, they observed that the separation of families, by dividing and sending slaves from one part of a province to another, where they had no prospects of reuniting, was tantamount and as cruel as that involved in transferring them from one province to another. With respect to an agglomeration of slaves on particular points, they contended that the demand would regulate the supply, and that things would find their own level.

As, nevertheless, a strong feeling was shown in favour of the measure on the part of those Deputies whose interests are connected with the Northern Provinces, as well as of those who consider that it would diminish the evils of slavery, it is likely to be brought forward again next session.

That party, likewise, out of the Chambers, which has been always strongly opposed to the Slave Trade, advocate it warmly. One of its most distinguished members told me that he considered the first thing that ought to be done would be to put a stop to the transfer of slaves from one province to another, then to remove them from the towns to the country, and attach them to the glebe, thus preparing the way for emancipation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 163.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

THE Project of Law, a copy of which I had the honour of transmitting in my despatch of the 12th ultimo,* as introduced into the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies by the President of the Province of Bahia, Senhor Wanderley, containing various humane provisions in favour of aged or diseased slaves, did not come under discussion in that Chamber previous to the close of the session of the Legislature, thus standing over till the next meeting of the latter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 164.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 13, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 5th ultimo, calling my attention to the remarks contained in the despatch of the 4th of May from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, of which your Lordship has forwarded me a copy, as to the difficulty experienced by the emancipated slaves in Brazil, who have acquired their own freedom, in procuring passages to Africa, and to his suggestion that Her Majesty's Consuls in the principal ports in Brazil might possibly be able to assist them by their interposition.

In order to carry out, to the best of my judgment, your Lordship's directions to take any steps for this object that may appear to me practicable, I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in this country the circular despatch of this day's date, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, instructing them to afford every assistance in their power, when the occasion presents itself, to these negroes, in any arrangements which the latter may be able to make for their passage to Africa.

I have, however, distinctly given Her Majesty's Consuls to understand that I do not authorize them to make any pecuniary outlay on account of Her Majesty's Government in the execution of this instruction.

The difficulty to which Mr. Consul Campbell alludes, arises, I conceive, principally from the want of sufficient funds on the part of the negroes, and from the circumstance that the necessary number of them to freight a vessel can rarely be collected together; consequently they are reduced to availing themselves chiefly of passages in Portuguese and Brazilian vessels.

As your Lordship informed me, by your despatch of the 16th of January of this year, that Her Majesty's Government had been obliged to abandon the scheme formerly entertained by Viscount Palmerston, of affording a passage to Africa from Rio de Janeiro, to a number of free negroes, at the expense of Her Majesty's Government, I have not thought myself at liberty to allow of any expenditure on this head, without special instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

 Inclosure in No. 164.
Circular to Her Majesty's Consuls in South America.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, October 13, 1854.

I BEG to inclose to you the copy of a despatch* from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, to the Earl of Clarendon, which has been transmitted to me by his Lordship, respecting the emancipated slaves in Brazil, who have acquired their own freedom, and are desirous of returning thence to the coast of Africa.

The Earl of Clarendon having called my attention to Mr. Campbell's remarks as to the difficulty which these poor people experience in procuring passages to Africa, and to his suggestion that Her Majesty's Consuls at the principal ports in Brazil might possibly be able to assist these negroes by their interposition, I have, on my part, to direct your attention to these points, and to instruct you to render every practicable assistance, when the occasion may present itself, to the negroes in question, by advice and by aiding them in any arrangements they may be able to make for their passage to Africa in British vessels, if possible, according to Mr. Campbell's suggestion, but if not, in such other vessels in which they may not be subjected to ill-treatment or imposition, as well as by friendly interposition with the Imperial local authorities, in case of such negroes experiencing any difficulties on the part of the latter, taking

* No. 4.

care however to avoid any undue interference likely to lead to irritation. I beg you, however, distinctly to understand that I am not empowered to authorize you to make any pecuniary outlay on the account of Her Majesty's Government in the execution of this instruction.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 165.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 13, 1854.

IN the evening of the 30th ultimo, Viscount Paraná, the President of the Council of Ministers, sent a gentleman of my acquaintance to me to communicate to me that a rich planter of this province had informed him that a Sardinian, purporting to be the captain of a slaver, to have been bound to the Havana, but to have arrived off the coast between Rio de Janeiro and Cape Frio, partly dismasted, under American colours, and with a cargo of Africans, had offered to sell him slaves at 400\$000 (45*l.*) per head; but the planter having refused to purchase any, the vessel had stood out to sea with the apparent intention of proceeding northwards.

Under these circumstances, Viscount Paraná announced that the Brazilian Government would send out cruizers to take other measures, and at the same time his Excellency invited my cooperation.

I accordingly addressed a despatch the same evening to Commodore Finch requesting him to send off one of Her Majesty's ships to cruize off the suspected points, and, moreover, to convey the information I had communicated to him to the Commanders of Her Majesty's cruizers on the station, a request which he lost no time in complying with.

I further addressed despatches to Her Majesty's Consuls at Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, and Pernambuco, conveying to them the intelligence in question, and enjoining upon them to keep a watch over suspicious vessels, and to report to me any information they might obtain, instructing the Vice-Consuls within their jurisdiction in the same sense.

Yesterday morning Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Trident" returned from Cape Frio, without her Commander having obtained any information concerning the vessel in question, and the result of the various inquiries and investigations set on foot by the Brazilian Government has hitherto been that the report of her appearance was unfounded. The planter, to whom I have referred, repeats that a person representing himself to be the captain of the slaver had offered him Africans for sale; but the story appears to have been a mystification, although it is not improbable it may have been got up by the slave-dealers in order to sound the ground with a view to some new speculations.

I have, nevertheless, thought it right to report succinctly the above-mentioned circumstances, in proof of the friendly manner in which Viscount Paraná sought my cooperation.

I spoke to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to-day on the subject. He thought that a steam-vessel which had gone to the assistance of a merchant-vessel which had been in distress near the place indicated, might have been mistaken for a slaver, but he assured me that the Imperial Government would continue to exercise the strictest vigilance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 166.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 21, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that I approve the circular instruction which you have addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil, directing them to assist the liberated Brazilian negroes in making arrangements for their passage to Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 167.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,† reporting the steps which you took upon learning the report communicated to you by Viscount Paraná, that a slaver was on the coast to the north of Rio Janeiro; and I have to communicate to you my approval of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 168.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 30, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of August,‡ I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch§ from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Hamburgh, reporting the result of the inquiries which he had been instructed to make respecting the Portuguese brig "*Experiencia*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 169.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 9, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 1st ultimo,|| I have the honour to state that I notified, under yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, your Lordship's approval of my proceedings in the case of the free negro John, as reported in my despatch of the 10th of August last.¶

My motive in doing so was to show the continued interest taken by Her Majesty's Government in favour of the African race. "

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* No. 164.

† No. 165.
|| No. 142.

‡ No. 150.

¶ No. 132.

§ No. 250.

No. 170.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 9, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, I beg to state that I yesterday addressed a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating your Lordship's approval of my proceedings on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans in the public service of Brazil, as well as in the service of private individuals, as reported in my despatch of the 10th of August last*; my object being to give weight to the representations I had made in their favour.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 171.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I yesterday notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the approval conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th ultimo, of the notes which I had addressed to his Excellency on the 17th and 18th of July last respectively, relative to advertisements offering for sale African negroes who, from the ages attributed to them must have been introduced into Brazil since the year 1831.

I took the same opportunity of communicating to his Excellency your Lordship's approvals contained in your despatches of the 1st and 3rd of July, of my previous notices of the 5th and 10th of May, relative to the advertisement of the illegal sale of a young African negress, and to the baptism, in the first instance as a slave, of the daughter of a free negress.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 172.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to me of the 1st ultimo,† I have the honour of inclosing the copy of a note which I addressed on the 8th instant to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and in which I have taken the opportunity afforded by your Lordship's approval of my application to his Excellency on the subject of the emancipated African Hilario, who had been detained in the House of Correction of this capital, to remind him that I have not yet received an answer to my subsequent note of the 24th of August (a copy of which was transmitted in my despatch of the 1st of September,‡) relative to the other emancipated Africans, in circumstances similar to those of Hilario.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 172.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, November 8, 1854.

HAVING transmitted at the time to the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copies of my note of the 17th of July last to your Excellency, and of your Excellency's note to me of the 19th of that month, on the case of the emancipated African Hilario, then detained in the House of Correction of this capital, and of other emancipated Africans similarly circumstanced, I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I have received a despatch from his Lordship, dated the 1st ultimo, communicating to me his approval of my application to your Excellency, as well as of the intention which I had announced of keeping my attention directed to this matter.

In the meantime I have not failed to transmit likewise to the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of your Excellency's note to me of the 22nd of August last, acquainting me with the orders issued by his Excellency the Minister of Justice, for the restoration of the said Hilario to full liberty; as well as of my note to your Excellency of the 24th of the same month, thanking your Excellency for that intelligence, whilst again claiming your good offices in order to obtain the complete liberty of the other emancipated Africans detained in the House of Correction under circumstances similar to those of Hilario, but to whom no reference is made in your Excellency's above-mentioned note.

Not having yet been honoured by your Excellency with a reply to my note, I beg to recall the subject of it to your recollection; for although I feel confident that your Excellency will have interested yourself in behalf of the Africans in question, nevertheless I am desirous of being enabled to inform Her Majesty's Government, on your Excellency's authority, not only that they have been placed in the possession of full liberty, but likewise that the Imperial Government will take measures in order that there may be no unnecessary delays in conferring that blessing upon such other Africans as may have obtained, or may be entitled to, their emancipation.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 173.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1854.

AT an interview which I had yesterday with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, I remarked that I feared the withdrawal, in order to form part of the contemplated naval expedition against Paraguay, of the Brazilian steam-vessels hitherto employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade, as well as of those lately purchased at considerable expense in England for the same purpose, might lead to a revival of that Traffic.

I stated that, according to the information I had received, the slave-dealers here had written to their friends and associates in Portugal, that the circumstance of the proposed withdrawal of the vessels in question, as well as of the diminution of the British squadron, consequent upon the attention of Her Majesty's Government being now directed to the Baltic and Black Sea, would afford a favourable opportunity for Slave Trade speculations to this country; and I inquired of his Excellency what arrangements the Imperial Government intended making to replace the cruisers so removed.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo replied that the same information had been given to him, but that the slave-dealers would find themselves mistaken.

for the Brazilian Government would not relax their vigilance, and the steam-vessels referred to would be replaced, although in great part by sailing-vessels; but should it be necessary the Government would purchase small steamers expressly to serve as cruisers against the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 174.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,* and I have to state to you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 8th of that month, again calling his attention to the case of the emancipated Africans who were illegally detained in the House of Correction at Rio de Janeiro.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 175.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th of November,† in which you give an account of a conversation which you had had with Senhor Limpo de Abreo, respecting the facilities which appeared likely to be given to Slave Trade by the withdrawal of Brazilian men-of-war from the coasts of that country, I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government trust that the Brazilian Government will adhere to the intention expressed by Senhor Limpo de Abreo, of taking measures to replace the vessels in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 176.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 14, 1855.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 7, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 13th ultimo,* I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a copy of my note of the 8th of that month to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, reminding his Excellency that I had not yet received an answer to a former note of mine on the subject of certain emancipated Africans detained in the House of Correction of this capital.

I now beg to inclose a translation of a note of the 5th instant, which has been addressed to me by Senhor Limpo de Abreo, stating that the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December of last year, which applies to the cases of such Africans, is being carried out, and that the Imperial Government are disposed to grant emancipation to those Africans who, having completed fourteen years in the service of private individuals, are entitled to it under that Decree.

Having myself visited the House of Correction a short time ago, I ascertained that the emancipated Africans, in whose favour I had interested myself, belonging to the class who had served private individuals, had been set at liberty; and I likewise learnt with gratification

* No. 172.

† No. 173.

that the worthy director of that establishment, Senhor Falcão, was taking measures to ameliorate the condition of the free Africans employed in it who had been fourteen years in the service of the State.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 176.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 5, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the notes which were addressed to me under the dates of the 24th of August and 8th of November of the present year by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c.

In the former Mr. Howard returns thanks for the certificate of emancipation which the Imperial Government ordered to be granted to the freed African named Hilario, he being thus placed fully at liberty, under certain conditions.

In the latter Mr. Howard claims the extension of similar favours to other Africans, who, being under identical circumstances, and having served private individuals during the space of fourteen years, were emancipated in virtue of the Decree of the 28th of December last.

Having brought the subject of these notes to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice, calling upon him for the necessary elucidations, his Excellency has just stated to me that the said Decree is being carried out, and that the Imperial Government are disposed to grant, in the manner therein established, emancipation to those Africans who, having completed fourteen years' service of private individuals, are entitled to it.

Replying thus to the two above-mentioned notes, I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 177.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 7th of December last, inclosing a copy of a note from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which he states that the Imperial Decree of December 28, 1853, for the emancipation of negroes who have completed fourteen years of service, was being carried out, I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government approve your proceedings in this matter, and have learnt with satisfaction that the emancipated Africans in whose behalf you had interested yourself had been set at liberty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 178.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith a translation of a Decree, signed on the 10th instant by the Emperor of Brazil, and published yesterday, imposing a fine of 20\$000 to 200\$000 (2*l.* 5*s.* to 22*l.* 10*s.*), and the penalty of imprisonment for eight days, upon the captains or masters of vessels who, contrary to the provisions of the Regulations of the 31st of January, 1842, shall convey slaves from one province of the Empire to the other without passports.

The principal object of this Decree I understand to be, to restrict the practice, which is now carried on upon a large scale, of sending slaves from the northern provinces to the market at Rio de Janeiro, and by which those provinces are deprived of the necessary hands for field labour.

It will likewise be available for impeding the transfer from one province to the other, and particularly to this province, of slaves of notoriously bad characters, with the view of obtaining a better price for them than where they are known, as well as of negroes and others, of whom it may be presumed that they either have been, or are intended to be, illegally reduced to slavery.

It has been remarked that several assassinations of their masters and suicides have lately been committed in this province by slaves imported from the northern provinces.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 178.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Ministry of Justice.

IT is my pleasure, in execution of the Law No. 261 of the 3rd of December, 1841, to decree the following:

Article 1. Those captains or masters of vessels who, contrary to the provision of the 70th Article of the Regulation No. 120 of the 31st of January, 1842, shall convey slaves from any one of the provinces to another of them without passports, will incur the fine of 20\$000 to 200\$000, and be imprisoned eight days, independent of the criminal penalties to which they may be liable, and the slaves are to be detained until it be proved who are the proprietors, by whom sent or by whom received, if they should not be well known persons.

Art. 2. The said fine and imprisonment are to be imposed by the police authorities, in the port of departure, in any port where the vessel may touch during the voyage, or in the port of her destination, in the manner prescribed in the 80th Article of the said Regulation.

José Thomas Nabuco de Araujo, one of my Councillors, Minister and Secretary of State for the Affairs of Justice, is to cause this to be carried into execution.

Given at the Palace of Rio de Janeiro the 10th of January, 1855, the thirty-fourth year of Independence and of the Empire.

(Signed by the Emperor.)

(Countersigned) JOSE THOMAS NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

No. 179.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 28, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, and of the answer* which I have returned to him respecting the right of the Brazilian authorities at Bahia to exact securities from foreign vessels taking a portion of their cargoes from thence to the west coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 185 and 191.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Bahia*.

No. 180.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(No. 3.)

My Lord,

Bahia, March 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 1 in No. 180.

List of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854. Jan. 20	Sardinian	Patacho	Iride ..	100	9	G. Ansaldo ..	Not known ..	Oil ..	Porto Novo ..	28
2	" 26	Ditto .	Smack	Fulmine ..	146	10	E. Torres ..	Ditto ..	Ballast ..	Acará ..	23
3	Feb. 4	French	Brig ..	Gabrielle et Charles ..	174	12	— Albert ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	37
4	" 4	Hamburg	Barque	Mary Annie ..	292	14	S. Reis ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Lagos ..	..
5	" 14	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilano .	73	9	A. de L. Encarnação ..	Ditto .	General ..	Ajudá ..	36
6	" 25	British	Schooner	Index ..	181	10	A. Morrison .	G. J. Jackson ..	Ballast ..	Loanda ..	26
7	Mar. 10	Sardinian	Patacho	Josephine ..	130	9	J. P. Muzatonio ..	Not known ..	Ditto ..	Onim ..	25
8	" 28	British	Barque	Windermere ..	372	16	W. Langeake ..	W. Rotheram ..	Ditto ..	Loanda ..	25

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1854.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 180.

List of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	1854. Jan. 21	British	Brig	Emily	232	10	R. S. Duffell	John Forster	Rum & tobacco	Cape Coast Castle	
2	" 26	French	Ditto	Cesar	225	10	Chas. Roy	Not known.	Ditto	Coast of Africa	
3	Feb. 2	Portuguese	Patacho	Cezar	175	11	Antonio Jozé Caiao	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
4	" 13	Ditto	Barque	Linda Flor	223	5	Antonio Joaquim Ferreira	Ditto	General	Ditto	Having 224 free blacks on board.
5	" 18	Ditto	Patacho	Dous Irmãos	123	11	D. da Costa Lage	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
6	Mar. 1	Sardinian	Ditto	Iride	110	10	G. Ansaldo	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
7	" 9	Hamburg	Brig	Harriet	295	12	— Hunter	Ditto	Ditto	St. Jorge d'Elmina	
8	" 11	French	Ditto	Gabrielle et Charles	225	10	— Sanglar	Ditto	Rum	Coast of Africa	
9	" 27	Portuguese	Yacht	Aguia	144	10	A. Alves Amorim	Ditto	General	Ditto	

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1854.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

No. 181.

*Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
August 14.)*

My Lord,

Bahia, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the accompanying lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 181.

List of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the quarter ending June 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854 April 6	Portuguese	Yacht	Veloz ..	160	12	João Chrisostomo ..	Not known ..	Oil ..	Prince's Isle ..	26
2	June 11	French	Schooner	Helène ..	154	9	— Marten ..	Ditto ..	Ballast ..	Goree ..	29
3	" 29	Portuguese	Patacho	Dous Irmãos ..	123	11	D. da Costa Lage ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Porto Novo ..	26

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1854.

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 181.

List of Vessels which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	REMARKS.
1	1854 April 7	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilia ..	103	..		Not known ..	General ..	Coast of Africa	
2	" 12	Ditto	Patacho ..	Mondego ..	103	13	G. Waddington ..	Ditto ..	Wood, &c. ..	St. Thomas and Prince's Isle	
3	" 22	Ditto	Barque ..	D. Francisca ..	392	17	A. Dios dos Santos	Ditto ..	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa	Cleared for London.
4	May 3	Sardinian	Polacca ..	Luigiana ..	220	11	E. Demoro ..	Luigi Biandri ..	Rum, &c. ..	Ditto	
5	June 17	Portuguese	Yacht ..	Veloz ..	162	8	A. G. dos Santos	Not known ..	General ..	Ditto	

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1854.

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

No. 182.

Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Bahia, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the half-yearly return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL.

Inclosure in No. 182.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the district of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending December 31, 1853.						For the half-year ending June 30, 1854.											
	Currency.		Sterling.				Currency.		Sterling.									
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
African Males	700\$	800\$	81	13	4	to	93	6	8	750\$	900\$	85	18	9	to	103	2	6
„ Females	650\$	750\$	75	16	8		87	10	0	700\$	800\$	80	4	2		91	13	
Creole Males	800\$	900\$	93	6	8		105	0	0	850\$	950\$	97	7	11		108	17	1
„ „ with professions	1,000\$	2,000\$	116	13	4		233	6	8	1,000\$	2,000\$	114	11	8		229	3	4
„ Females	700\$	800\$	81	13	4		93	6	8	750\$	850\$	85	18	9		97	7	11

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL.

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1854.

No. 183.

Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

Bahia, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that a Joint Stock Company has been formed in this city, for the promotion of the introduction of Chinese into the province of Bahia.

In consequence of slaves having been sent in large numbers to the southern parts of the Empire, and the mortality common amongst the blacks employed in agriculture, a great want of labour has arisen in this Province, the planters being unable to supply this deficiency from fresh importations of negroes, as was formerly the case.

The introduction of free labourers amongst the slave population on the sugar estates is a dangerous experiment, and however ably the present scheme may be conducted, I much fear that the result will not be at all commensurate with the expectations entertained regarding it.

Artificers, servants, and workmen are not so much required here, although it is the intention of the Company to promote their immigration also.

It does not appear that any privileges or immunities are intended to be conferred by Government upon the colonists when the term of their contract for servitude has expired.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL.

No. 184.

*Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
December 4.)*

My Lord,

Bahia, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 184.

LIST of Vessels which have arrived at the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854 July 9	Sardinian	Patacho	Iride ..	100	10	G. Ansaldo .	Not known	Ballast	Brocussu ..	24
2	Aug. 6	Portuguese	Yacht	Agua ..	105	10	A. A. d'Amorim	Ditto ..	Oil, &c.	Ajudá ..	23
3	Sept. 3	Ditto	Barque	Linda Flor ..	177	14	A. Jm. Ferreira	Ditto ..	Ballast	Aghwey ..	26
4	" 20	Ditto	Yacht	Emilia ..	108	9	A. C. C. Giraldes	Ditto ..	Ditto	Porto Novo	29

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1854.

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 184.

LIST of Vessels which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1854 July 6	Portuguese	Brig	Liberal .	290	14	B. M. Nogueira ..	Not known	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
2	Aug. 9	Ditto	Patacho	Dous Irmãos ..	161	10	J. M. Santos d'Aquilla	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto
3	" 28	Dutch	Schooner	Goudkust ..	198	9	— Olivekande ..	Ditto ..	Rum ..	St. George d'Elmina
4	" 28	Sardinian	Polacca	Giudetta ..	174	10	E. Chiozza ..	Ditto ..	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
5	" 30	Ditto	Patacho	Iride ..	110	10	G. Ansaldo ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto
6	Sept. 7	Hamburg	Schooner	Sylphide .	155	11	— Meyer .	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto
7	" 17	Portuguese	Patacho	Progresso de Bissáu ..	132	13	L. A. Rochodes ..	Ditto ..	Sundries	Bissau
8	" 26	Sardinian	Polacca	Destino ..	208	11	L. Giustiviano ..	Ditto ..	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
9	" 29	Ditto	Ditto	Maria ..	196	10	M. Doderro ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1854.

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

No. 185.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 1, 1853.)

My Lord,

Bahia, December 26, 1854.

A QUESTION of a novel nature, but of some importance—as the Slave Trade can now be considered as extinct at this port—has attracted much attention of late on the part of the Consular body and commercial community, which makes it incumbent on me to acquaint your Lordship thereof, and to solicit your instructions when the misapplication of Brazilian regulations should require my assistance for the protection of British shipping and interests on similar occasions.

The French ship “Camelia” from Hâvre, arrived in this port on the 31st October last. On giving entry at the custom-house the master presented two manifests of his cargo, one showing that a part was destined for Bahia, and the other in transit for Whydah on the coast of Africa. Both manifests were legally documented by the French authorities at Hâvre, and in like manner certified by the Brazilian Consul, in accordance with the fiscal regulations of the Empire.

After discharging her cargo for this destination, the “Camelia” took a portion of the produce of the country, but when ready to proceed to sea was refused a clearance, on the plea that she must give security for the value of the ship as well as for the cargo which she brought from Hâvre (composed of 156 bundles of staves for pipes, and 678 barrels of cowries) which had been legally shipped and cleared at the aforesaid port of Hâvre.

This pretension on the part of the export department gave rise to much comment, and one and all naturally supposed it would have been resisted as a most unwarrantable assumption tending to supervise the acts of the fiscal authorities of a foreign country, which alone possessed the right to understand the laws bearing on its own navigation.

I regret to acquaint your Lordship that notwithstanding the advice asked of the Netherlands Consul and myself, by the master and consignees of the “Camelia,” against the arguments adduced by us and others to the Chancellor of the French Consulate, now acting as Consul, on a like application, the latter consented, and, as I am told, advised, the master to obtain and to give the security in question; thus subjecting his flag to a regulation which can only be intended to apply to Brazilian shipping, or to such foreign ships that took suspected cargoes at a port of the Empire, but which certainly could never be legally applied to a vessel in transit competently cleared by the fiscal authorities of her own country on a legal adventure.

This question is one of importance at the present moment, inasmuch as the trade from Great Britain and other parts of Europe indirectly with the coast of Africa through this port is on the increase for the supply of palm-oil; and if such a regulation is to be binding on foreign shipping, aside from the restrictions imposed by Treaties on their respective countries, to which Brazil is no party, it would tend to exclude many British vessels from accepting favourable charters for that destination, as many consignees are not to be found who would like to subject themselves to such onerous responsibilities when once their trade is acknowledged to be a *bonâ fide* legal one by their own authorities, and who expect their flag shall be exempt from the misinterpretations of the common principles of international custom and right.

As I can only consider such an assumption on the part of the fiscal authorities of this port, supported, as I understand, by the Imperial Government, as a *sui generis* mode of applying their own regulations, similar in every respect to the pretension already manifested in relation to the Netherlands ship “Gouverneur Van der Eb,” which was the subject of my despatch of 6th June, 1853,* I believe it will be my duty to resist such a pretension, unless instructed by your Lordship to the contrary.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 172.

A precedent, however, is now established by the Acting-Consul of a powerful nation, which will only strengthen similar pretensions, and on like occasions place other Consulates who should attempt to resist them in a false and invidious position.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

No. 186.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 7, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 18th of August, 1853,* stating that you had been informed that the unusual quantities of rum and tobacco which were then being shipped at Bahia for the coast of Africa were intended to be employed in the purchase of slaves, I transmit herewith, for your information, an extract of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, confirming the correctness of your report above mentioned, and containing information relative to your periodical lists for 1853 of vessels trading between Bahia and the coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 187.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received a despatch from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, inclosing a copy of a letter which he addressed to you on the 14th of December last, containing information respecting the trade carried on between Bahia and the coast of Africa; and I have to instruct you to communicate to Mr. Campbell, from time to time, such intelligence respecting the equipment of vessels at Bahia, or any movements connected with the Slave Trade, as you may consider likely to prove useful to him in his endeavours to thwart the proceedings of the slave-dealers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 188.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Bahia, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the quarterly returns of the navigation to and from the coast of Africa.

At the same time I feel great satisfaction in acquainting your Lordship that no sign of any description appears to exist to prove that the trade with the coast of Africa is not a legal one. The greater part of the shippers to the coast are now respectable individuals who represent various establishments in Europe, all of whom, from what I have been able to collect, are interested in the supplies received from that quarter in a fair barter for the produce of this country. Nevertheless, the provincial authorities are vigilant, and I apprehend there is little fear of the Slave Trade being revived at this port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 176.

† No. 32.

Inclosure 1 in No. 188.

LIST of VESSELS which have arrived at the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854 Oct. 2	British	Schooner	Deslandes	143	8	John Durrell	G. Deslandes	Ballast	Coast of Africa	23
2	" 15	French	Polacca	Robuste	176	10	Dubois Antoine	Not known	Ditto	Acará	42
3	Nov. 14	Hamburg	Schooner	Sylphide	130	12	— Meyer	Ditto	Ditto	Lagos	28
4	" 18	Portuguese	Patacho	Dous Irmãos	123	10	J. M. S. Aguilã	Ditto	Ditto	Porto Novo	31
5	" 28	Ditto	Yacht	Veloz	161	8	A. G. dos Santos	Ditto	Oil, &c.	Ajudá	28
6	Dec. 16	French	Polacca	Victoire	170	9	— Aster	Ditto	Ballast	Coast of Africa	55
7	" 17	Hamburg	Brig	Henrich	220	10	— Sphier	Ditto	Ditto	Lagos	28

British Consulate, Bahia, January 1, 1855.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 188.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1854 Oct. 27	British	Schooner	Deslandes	143	8	John Durell	G. Deslandes	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
2	" 28	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilia	103	10	A. C. C. Geraldès	Not known	Ditto	Ditto
3	Nov. 20	French	Polacca	Robuste	263	13	— Dubois	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
4	Dec. 2	Dutch	Schooner	Afrikan	156	7	— Klock	Ditto	Ditto	St. George d'Elmina
5	" 13	French	Barque	Camillia	456	14	— Queygar	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa
6	" 17	Hamburg	Schooner	Sylphide	155	11	— Meyer	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto

British Consulate, Bahia, January 1, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

No. 189.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Bahia, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the half-yearly return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 189.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending June 30, 1854.						For the half-year ending December 31, 1854.									
	Currency.		Sterling.				Currency.		Sterling.							
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.			
African Males	750s	to 900s	85	18	9	to 103	2	6	900s	to 1,000s	105	0	0	to 116	13	4
„ Females	700s	800s	80	4	2	91	13	4	850s	950s	99	3	4	110	16	8
Creole Males	850s	950s	97	7	11	108	17	1	1,000s	1,100s	116	13	4	128	6	8
„ „ with professions ...	1,000s	2,000s	114	11	8	229	3	4	1,500s	2,000s	175	0	0	233	6	8
„ Females	750s	850s	85	18	9	97	7	11	900s	950s	105	0	0	110	16	8

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.**British Consulate, Bahia, January 1, 1855.*

No. 190.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Bahia, January 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a list showing the number of slaves exported from this port to Rio de Janeiro during the past year.

It appears to me that the Imperial Government's attention has been called to this subject since the publication of my despatch to your Lordship of the 2nd of January, 1854, inasmuch as the President of this province, Senhor Wanderley, brought forward a motion in the General Legislative Assembly at Rio de Janeiro during its last session to prohibit this exportation.

In a long discussion his Excellency then proved its immoral tendency, and the great injury it inflicted on the northern provinces, by draining them of their population. His motion was not carried, on the plea that it interfered with private property, and with its free disposal, and would, moreover, estrange the commercial relations between the provinces.

The Imperial Government, however, have not entirely overlooked the

matter, as the Imperial Decree No. 1,530, of the 10th of January last, provides in a more stringent manner for the responsibility of merchant masters who carry slaves without passports from one port to another, thus evading the heavy export duty imposed by certain provincial laws against such a drain on their agricultural population.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 190.

List of Slaves exported coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, with Passports granted by the Authorities of this City.

1854.					No.
January and February	..	..	..	..	127
March	..	..	..	..	50
April	..	..	..	..	98
May	..	..	..	..	53
June	..	..	..	..	27
July	..	..	..	..	24
August	..	..	..	..	219
September	..	..	..	..	166
October	..	..	..	..	265
November	..	..	..	..	212
December	..	..	..	..	151
Total	..	..	..	..	1,392

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

British Consulate, Bahia, January 4, 1855.

No. 191.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 28, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th of December last, mentioning the arrival at Bahia of the French ship "Camelia," from Havre, a portion of whose cargo was destined for Whydah. You state, that when that vessel was ready to proceed to her destination, the master was required to give security to the amount of the value of the ship, as well as of the cargo in transit, which demand was complied with upon the advice of the French Consular Agent; and you request instructions for your guidance in the event of a similar demand being made by the Brazilian authorities in the case of a British vessel.

I have referred the matter to the proper Law Officer of the Crown, who has stated, that as you do not cite or refer to the particular Brazilian Law or Regulation under which security was required in the case of the "Camelia" and her cargo, he is unable to advise with regard to the course which you ought to pursue, if a British vessel should be similarly situated.

But I have to observe, that the compliance of the French Consular Agent with the demand in question, renders it probable that there was some ground for it in reason or in law. For, if vessels bound to the coast of Africa call at a Brazilian port, and there ship cargo, it does not appear unreasonable for the Brazilian authorities to require security that such cargo shall not be in any manner used to promote slave-trading.

Our own laws, as to all matters connected with slave-trading, and more particularly as to the export of any goods which may be, even in a remote and indirect manner, employed in such Traffic, are very severe and exceptional; and I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government would be unwilling to appear disposed to resist any measures adopted by Brazil with the *bonâ fide* object of preventing the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pará*.

No. 192.

Consul Vines to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 11.)

My Lord,

Pará, July 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch under date the 2nd of March last, desiring me to add a third column to the half-yearly returns of the prices of slaves, to show what the prices were during the previous half-year.

I have the honour to observe to your Lordship, that for some years past no return has been made of the prices of slaves in the district of this Consulate, there being no slave-market within the province.

Slaves are occasionally sold by private contract, but their prices rarely transpire; and when any of the few small estates worked by slave labour have exchanged owners, the slaves are all invariably included in the sale of the property.

In the prices current of this city, the value of slaves is not quoted, unlike the other commercial ports of this Empire, where, from the larger slave population, they form important and regular articles of commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL VINES.

BRAZIL. (Consular)—Paraiba.

No. 193.

Pro-Consul Krausé to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Paraiba, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed, my half-yearly return of the price of slaves within this Consular district, together with that of the foregoing half-years.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY KRAUSE.

Inclosure in No. 193.

RETURN showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Paraiba, Brazil, from January 1 to June 30, 1854, together with that of the two foregoing half-years, so far as the same can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Pro-Consul at Paraiba.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves during the three half-years.		
	1853. January 1—June 30.	1853. July 1—December 31.	1854. January 1—June 30.
<i>Agricultural.</i>			
Males	{ Rs. 700,800 £ 82 5 10	{ Rs. 700,800 £ 82 5 10	{ Rs. 750,800 £ 84 7 6
Females	{ Rs. 650,800 £ 77 3 9	{ Rs. 650,800 £ 77 3 9	{ Rs. 700,800 £ 78 15 0
<i>Mining.</i>			
Males	There are none of this class in the Province.		
Females			
<i>Domestic.</i>			
Males	{ Rs. 800,800 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 800,800 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 900,800 £ 101 5 0
Females	{ Rs. 800,800 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 800,800 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 850,800 £ 95 12 6
<i>Newly Imported.</i>			
Males	None have been imported during these eighteen months.		
Females			

(Signed) HENRY KRAUSE, *Pro-Consul.*
British Consulate, Paraiba, June 30, 1854.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pernambuco*.

No. 194.

Acting-Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, April 8, 1854.

I HAVE great satisfaction in informing your Lordship that there has been no renewal in this province of the African Slave Trade during the quarter ended 31st March.

In my despatch of the 16th of January,* I mentioned to your Lordship that there were rumours of an intended landing of slaves in the neighbourhood of the Rio Francisco. Since that time two of Her Majesty's steamers, and two Brazilian sloops of war, have been constantly cruising on the coast without seeing any vessel of a suspicious character. I am therefore induced to conclude, that if the intention of landing slaves in that quarter has ever existed, it has now been abandoned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

No. 195.

Acting-Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, July 5, 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction of informing your Lordship that there has been no renewal of the African Slave Trade during the quarter ended the 30th June.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

No. 196.

Acting-Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE much satisfaction in informing your Lordship that there has been no renewal, in this district, of the African Slave Trade during the quarter ended this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio Grande do Sul.*

No. 197.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, May 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Wodehouse's despatch of the 29th March last, and to thank your Lordship for the copies therein transmitted of the Act 59 Geo. III, cap. 120, respecting the registry of slaves.

I take the liberty of inclosing by this opportunity a communication which I have addressed this day to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, pointing out the steps I propose to take in reference to the above subject, in the event of receiving no contrary instructions from him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 197.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, May 26, 1854.

LORD WODEHOUSE, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has communicated to me copies of the Act 59 Geo. III, cap. 120, relating to the registry of slaves of certain British Colonies, prior to the abolition of slavery therein.

From the inquiries I have instituted on this subject it appears to me that the passing of an Act for the registration of slaves in any province of Brazil, comes within the attributes of the Provincial Legislature of that Province, and I am convinced that much benefit to the country might result from the adoption of some of the provisions of the British Act; for not only might it prove a convenient source of revenue, and check the purloining and surreptitious sales of slaves, but it would probably stop altogether the Traffic within the country of persons of colour illegally treated as slaves, and whose chances of regaining their liberty are necessarily diminished each time they are transferred to some new reputed owner; and I may add that the adoption of such principles of law would prove a most useful engine in the event of measures being at a future time adopted for the gradual abolition of slavery.

It is my intention to avail myself of an early opportunity to recommend, in a private manner, to the President of this province the application to his district of some of the principles of the Act 59 Geo. III, cap. 120, and to test the feelings of leading persons on the subject; but if any official communication should be desired, I shall apply for your instructions prior to taking any such step.

In the event of my further inquiries leading to the conviction that a law with provisions similar to those of the British Act for the Registration of Slaves might be passed by some of the Provincial Legislatures without opposition from the Central Government, it would probably prove advis-

able that other Consuls in Brazil should have the Act communicated to them; I merely throw out this remark as a preliminary suggestion, but will have the honour of keeping you informed of the success or otherwise which may attend my proceedings upon this subject in this district.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 198.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 22, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information some documents having reference to a reported landing of Africans on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina, where it adjoins this province on the coast.

Your Lordship will perceive from these inclosures that persons of considerable influence in this province are believed to have not only sanctioned, but to possess interests in, this reported flagrant violation of law, as also in the landing of Africans which occurred near the same place in the year 1852.

Inclosure 1 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul.

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1854.

THE Undersigned, the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, &c., has the honour to bring to the knowledge of his Excellency Senhor João Luis Vieira Causausão de Sinimbu, President of this province, that he has received information that a large number of Africans were landed on the 11th and 12th instants, for introduction as slaves into this province, at a stream called Iguay, not far from the town of As Torres, near the frontiers.

The landing, it is stated, was effected from a vessel believed to have proceeded from the coast of Africa, the Africans being disembarked from that vessel to a yacht which proceeded from the coast of this province or that of the province of Santa Catharina, and which afterwards landed all the Africans in the neighbourhood of As Torres, when, apparently by pre-concert with the people of the coast, they were immediately distributed in the country.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1854.

A REPORT, with much appearance of truth, has reached me of a landing of a large number of Africans on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina where it borders this province on the coast.

I have the honour to inclose copies of letters on this subject, from which you will derive the details of the information received by me.

I have also communicated information of this report to Her Majesty's Consul at Santa Catharina, and also to the British Vice-Consul at Porto Alegre, and to the officers of the Brazilian Government here.

Inclosure 3 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to Consul Callander.

Sir

Rio Grande do Sul, June 22, 1854.

I HAVE received information of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina where it touches this province on the coast.

The landing is stated to have been effected from a coasting-vessel, which received the negroes from a larger vessel, supposed to have come from the coast of Africa.

The landing of these Africans so close to the frontiers appears to have been planned with the object of avoiding the vigilance of the authorities of this province, by possessing the power to pass the Africans, in case of pursuit, over to the Province of Santa Catharina.

I trust, therefore, you will give me such assistance as lies in your power, in order that, by procuring the liberation of these negroes, or by depriving the projectors of the scheme of the profits they expect from their inhuman speculation, a check may be presented to such attempts in future.

I am sure I need not call your attention to the importance of stopping the vessel which appears to have brought these Africans, if it should enter into any port of your district for provisions or other purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to Vice-Consul Aveline.

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1854.

I AM informed that there was effected a landing of a large number of Africans on the 11th and 12th instants, at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina where it adjoins this province, these Africans being landed from a small coasting-vessel which received them from a larger vessel.

I am led to think that it is intended to introduce these Africans as slaves in this province, distributing them at first in the neighbourhood of Torres and San Antonio da Patrulha.

I have to instruct you to inquire particularly into this case, and to report to me, without delay, any details that may come to your knowledge.

I understand the majority of Africans landed on both these occasions are young, from 9 to 15 years of age.

No. 199.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose memoranda, showing the arrivals and departure of persons by this port during the past six months; this paper being prepared with the view of testing the diminution of slavery in this province during that period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 199.

RETURN showing the diminution of Slavery, by the Arrivals and Departures of Slaves and other persons through the Port of Rio Grande do Sul, during the six-monthly period ended June 30, 1854.

<i>British subjects.</i>					
Arrived	..	..	..	..	5
Departed	..	..	..	..	54
Decrease of British subjects in Province, <i>viâ</i> this Port.					49

<i>Free Foreigners (excluding Soldiers).</i>					
Arrived	..	..	..	..	514
Departed	..	..	..	..	534
Decrease of free Foreigners in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port.					20

<i>Slaves (accompanying their Masters).</i>					
Arrived	..	..	..	..	31
Departed	..	..	..	..	66
Decrease of these slaves in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port					35

<i>Slaves (for sale).</i>					
Arrived	..	..	..	..	14
Departed	..	..	..	..	65
Decrease of these slaves in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port					51

Total decrease in slavery by departures of slaves <i>viâ</i> this Port	..	..	..	..	86
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(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

No. 200.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a return, showing the average prices of slaves at this port during the past six months.

I trust the manner in which these prices have been compared with those prevalent in the six-monthly period preceding will meet the views expressed in your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd of March last.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 200.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during the six months ending June 30, 1854.

Classes of Slaves.	Average price in six-monthly periods to				Difference in price in last six months.	
	December 31, 1853.		June 30, 1854.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>						
Males	720\$000	78 0 0	710\$000	76 18 4	..	1 1 8
Females	680\$000	73 13 4	675\$000	73 2 6	..	0 10 10
<i>Mining.</i>	None.					
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males	780\$000	84 10 0	795\$000	86 2 6	1 12 6	
Females . . .	740\$000	80 3 4	740\$000	80 3 4		
<i>Newly Imported.</i>	None imported within the past six months, as yet known positively, though a report exists of a cargo having been landed on the 11th instant.					

Exchange at 2s. 2d. per milreis.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

No. 201.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordship's consideration the following observations, intended to review the state of slavery and the Slave Trade in this Consular district during the twelve months ending this day.

I have the satisfaction to premise that, according to the information possessed by this Consulate, no attempts to renew the Slave Trade from Africa to this district have occurred during the past twelve months.

Your Lordship will perceive from the half-yearly returns of the prices of slaves, that the prices in this district have varied but little during the past twelve months; nevertheless some slaves have been sold at unprecedented high prices, and the tendency of prices is evidently upwards.

From memoranda which I have taken the liberty to transmit to the Foreign Office, to show the departures and arrivals of slaves by this port, it appears that during the past twelve months the number of slaves that departed exceeded the number of those that arrived by 184; but this number does not include those who may have left for other provinces overland, or who may have escaped from servitude, and necessarily not those who have been granted or who have purchased their liberty. If these causes, which tend to lessen the number of slaves in this district,

are taken into consideration, it will be perceived that the number of slaves have considerably diminished in this district during the past twelve months.

The introduction coastwise of any slaves for sale in this province is a subject calculated to excite suspicion, for not only are the average prices in the northern ports, from which they come, higher than in this district, but on entry here there is an additional tax to pay; besides, these transactions are usually conducted by natives of Portugal: however, in justice to the authorities of this place, it may be observed that this Consulate, in the inquiries instituted with regard to the negroes thus brought from other Brazilian ports, has not hitherto discovered that any of them were persons who could legally claim their liberty.

It must, nevertheless, be acknowledged that the laws of Brazil, as at present carried out, are wholly insufficient to prevent what might be called an illicit internal Traffic in Slaves, I mean, the selling as slaves of persons of colour who are not slaves, even according to the Brazilian laws. To show that such a Traffic does exist, it seems only necessary to refer to the fact that comparatively few of the negroes who have been landed from Africa since the enactment of the Brazilian laws declaring that such persons should be considered free, have since had their liberty recognized: it is also well known that slaves are often stolen from their proprietors in order that they might be sold. It appears evident that if the Brazilian laws were efficient to impede the internal Slave Trade referred to, the preponderant majority of the negroes imported into Brazil since the year 1831, would now have obtained their freedom, and that the sales of slaves by persons who are not their owners, and have no authority from the owners, could not take place, and much less the kidnapping of free persons to be sold into slavery.

The laws now in force, which seem to apply to the above-mentioned cases, are those which impose taxes on the possession or attainment by transfer of a slave, the tax called "*meia sisa*" being the principal. But seemingly no sufficient proof that the person transferred is really a slave is required by those whose duty it is to execute these laws; the presentation of the deeds of transfer, and, in the event of the person sold coming from another port, of a passport, seem to be esteemed a proof sufficient. Such being the case, it will be deemed superfluous to refer to the wide field which so lax a method opens to the detestable practices of slave-dealers, who by the enhanced prices of slaves, are daily the more enticed to engage in such demoralizing and inhuman proceedings as are represented by the illicit internal Slave Trade above mentioned.

It would seem that the surest means of permanently obstructing such transactions might perhaps be found in the enactment and enforcement of a rigid law for the complete and efficacious registration of slaves in Brazil.

It may be incidentally remarked that the efforts of persons of colour, illegally held in slavery, can rarely be relied on as a means whereby they will procure their own freedom, as the apathy of these people is extraordinary, and after being retained in illegal slavery for some years, they seem to abandon all hope of obtaining their freedom. This remark applies, not only to subjects of the Oriental Republic treated as slaves in this province, but with greater force to negroes brought in previous years from Africa.

I may be pardoned for availing myself of this occasion to call your Lordship's attention to a question which appears of importance in connection with the diminution of slavery: namely, to the buying and selling of slaves by the subjects (other than those of Her Majesty) of countries in which slavery does not exist.

With regard to this question, I would observe that, though there might be presented some sort of apology for the introduction of negroes from a savage state to a country where they may learn some of the customs and ideas of civilization, yet for the buying and selling of human beings by foreigners residing in those countries where slavery exists, there appears no sort of excuse. These transactions are generally had recourse

to merely as a measure of economy, because it is found cheaper to purchase a slave than to hire free persons, or even slaves, whilst the iniquity and inhumanity of the proceeding remains in all its repulsiveness, and the principle of not trafficking in human beings remains outraged as fully as it would have been by the importation of negroes from Africa.

I would further observe, that in the most important towns of Brazil, and other countries where slavery exists, there are a large number of foreigners; and if it were once established that none such should buy or sell slaves, the moral effect to be expected from the declaration, and still more from the maintenance of such a principle, would doubtless penetrate to the natives of the country, showing in the most perceptible manner the horror with which any trafficking in human beings is viewed by the most civilized nations of the world.

At present British subjects remain almost alone in their desire not to have dealings in slaves, but though the position thus occupied is most honourable to the British nation, still it cannot be concealed that the object in view, the utter extinction of slavery in all parts of the world, would be sooner attained if other nations were to adopt the philanthropic measures heretofore sanctioned by the British Legislature.

Two methods by which the object mentioned might be advanced present themselves; the first the enactment of laws, in the countries where slavery exists, prohibiting foreigners from buying or selling slaves therein, and such laws might perhaps be popular, as the immediate effect would probably be an augmentation in the hiring of slaves; the second method referred to would consist in the promulgation by foreign nations of views similar to those contained in the British Acts which refer to the purchase or sale of slaves by British subjects resident in foreign countries, such views to control their respective subjects in whatever country residing. The moral effect of either of these measures could not fail of being very powerful and beneficial.

A report of a landing of Africans on the 11th and 12th instant at the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina, for introduction into this province, has reached this Consulate; but as the report is not yet fully confirmed, it is not further referred to in this retrospect.

A feeling seems to be gradually growing in this province, that before very many years slavery will cease to exist in this part of Brazil; the mildness of the climate acts not only as an incentive to the natives to turn their thoughts to labour, but also induces immigration from other countries; whilst the facility with which the natives can here undertake labour, and the progressively increasing immigration, gives to those in this district a power to dispense with slave-labour in a greater degree than is possessed by those residing in the warmer latitudes. Thus the departures of slaves from this district to the northern provinces greatly exceed the arrivals from those parts, and as the stopping of the Slave Trade is calculated to augment largely the prices of slaves in the northern provinces, where free labour is rare as compared with this district, and where the want of slave-labour is not likely to be immediately supplied by immigration, it follows that the necessities of the northern provinces will maintain there a higher comparative price for slaves than those of this district will admit of here. It seems, therefore, that it may be concluded that the prices of slaves in these parts of the Empire will be regulated by those in the warmer latitudes, and that, the demand in the latter continuing with higher prices, slaves will gradually be withdrawn from hence to supply that demand, until the limit is reached when the value of the slave in the northern provinces will be so manifestly in excess of the advantages to be gained from his services here, that the exportation, as it were, of the remaining slaves to the intertropical provinces will necessarily result, and practically have the effect of extinguishing slavery in this district.

Meantime no efforts are made by the natives to accelerate an event of such vital importance and interest to them: they seem blind to the fact that it is slavery which scares away their expected immigrants, which checks their growth, which corrupts their manners; and that it is only

necessary for them to root out from among them this baneful evil, in order to reach that position of wealth, progress and enlightenment to which their rich country, their earnest desire to advance, and their many excellent qualities, entitle them to aspire.

No. 202.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 6, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of June last, reporting that a landing of Africans had been effected on the 11th and 12th of that month, on the frontiers of the coasts of Rio Grande and of St. Catherine's; and I have to express to you my approval of the steps which you took on hearing of that occurrence.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 203.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of June last,* inclosing a return of the prices of slaves at Rio Grande do Sul during the six months ending on that day; and I have to inform you that I approve the manner in which you have shown the comparison between those prices and the prices prevailing during the preceding six months.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 204.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of June last,† and I have to express to you my approval of the able and interesting report on slavery and the Slave Trade in Rio Grande do Sul contained therein.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 205.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, July 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a note, dated the 30th ultimo, which I received from Senhor João Luis Vieira Causausão de Sinimbú, the President of this province, in reply to the note which I had addressed to him on the 20th ultimo, of which I inclosed a copy to your Lordship in my despatch of the 22nd ultimo. I also inclose translations of eight documents transmitted with the President's despatch.

Your Lordship will perceive from these papers, that the President of this province inclines to the belief that the landing of Africans, if effected, was on the frontiers, but within the territory, of the Province of Santa Catharina.

I have also the honour to submit to your Lordship a copy of the note I this day addressed in reply to the President. In that reply, I have alluded to the absence of special instructions, to the police officers guarding the coast, to arrest with a view to punishment those residents in the country who might receive, or in any manner trade in, Africans after their landing, as I believe that this is a duty not sufficiently attended to, and that by the strict punishment of such persons the most powerful means will be found for extinguishing the Slave Trade.

I have to add that I have transmitted to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro translations of the President's despatch of the 30th ultimo and of my reply.

Inclosure 1 in No. 205.

The President of Rio Grande do Sul to Consul Vereker.

*Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,
June 30, 1854.*

(Translation.)

THE official despatch of the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande, dated the 20th instant, was before this Presidency, communicating to me that he received information that a large number of Africans had been disembarked in this province on the 11th and 12th instant, in the district of Torres, in a river called Iguay, this debarkation having been effected by a vessel which arrived from the coast of Africa, which passed over the Africans to a yacht, which landed them there with the previous accord of the inhabitants of the place, amongst whom they were distributed. And this Presidency taking into due consideration the information given by the same Consul, proceeds to give him notice of all the provisions which it has given in relation to this business, communicating to him the information which it has received from those places, and by which the Presidency believes either that such debarkation was not effected, or, if it were, that it was done in a district of the Province of Santa Catharina, outside the control of the jurisdiction of this same Presidency.

I shall, however, begin by assuring the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, that as Brazilian and as Delegate of the Imperial Government, whose orders I perform with the loyalty which I pride myself on possessing, I am especially engaged to give the last blows for the total extinction of the abominable Traffic in Africans; and accordingly as soon as during the past month I received from the Imperial Government a confidential notification, instructing me that a debarkation of Africans on the coasts of this province, near the coast of the Tramandahy river, was being projected, I caused to leave this capital two detachments of police, commanded by two officers of confidence, giving them the instructions appearing from the copy inclosed.

By these instructions the police of the coast was divided into two parts, the one being commanded by Captain Marcelino José de Carmo, charged to overrun it from the bar of the River Tramandahy towards the south to the town of Mostardas; the Presidency, fearing that the traders should have recourse to those places with the intention of crossing the small extension of land which separates the sea from the Lake dos Patos, to accomplish their crime in that direction. The other part was confided to the command of Captain Francisco Antonio de Moraes, he having in his charge the police from the bar of the same River Tramandahy on the northern side to Torres, the limits between this province and that of Santa Catharina; and as the Presidency feared that such a debarkation might also be effected in the territory of that same province, it authorized the same Captain Moraes to penetrate therein in case of justifiable necessity.

Both these detachments left on the 22nd ultimo; and until the 1st instant nothing occurred.

On the 9th I received from Captain Francisco Antonio de Moraes the despatch inclosed dated the 4th, and written from the *Estancia do Meio*, in the which he told me that he had received from the Delegate of Police of the City of Laguna the official despatch communicating to him that a debarkation of 150 Africans had taken place on the days 1st to 3rd of May, in the River *Tramandahy*; in regard to which he requested information. The circumstance of his having already passed by *Tramandahy*, where he did not encounter any thing, the fact of this official despatch being brought by the whole detachment of police which were guarding the coast of the Province of detachment that a packet-boat suspected of being employed in the Traffic, was sailing off and on between the heights of *Santa Martha Santa Catharina* from *Laguna* to *Torres*, and the notice given by the same and *Conventos*, caused Captain Moraes to suspect the sending of that official despatch, and, in consequence, availing himself of the authority which he had, he entered into the territory of the adjoining province.

Under date of the 7th instant, Captain Marcelino officially addressed me from *Cerquinha*, imparting to me his proceedings, and affirming that no debarkation had occurred to the south of *Tramandahy*, and communicating to me that he was informed Captain Moraes had proceeded to *Torres*. On the 9th, the same Captain again wrote to me, imparting that he had received from Captain Moraes a copy of the official letter of the Delegate of Laguna, and then affirming that the notice of this debarkation in *Tramandahy* was false.

Finally on the 23rd I received the last inclosed despatch from Captain Moraes, dated the 18th, and written from the same place, the *Estancia do Meio*, in which he relates the result of his searches in the territory of the frontier province. This Presidency calls the attention of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to this despatch, for he will see that the suspicion of Captain Moraes was well founded; that the packet-boat, which was sailing off and between *Conventos* and *Santa Martha*, in the Province of *Santa Catharina*, had all the appearance of being a slaver; that according to the information collected it occasionally tried to enter the bar of the River *Araringua* to effect its debarkation, but that on one of those occasions a steamer in pursuit having approached, it made sail and disappeared; and as up to that period it had not returned again, the same Captain agreed to return to the territory of this province.

These are the official informations which this Presidency has received respecting this affair, which, as a proof of the sincere obligation in which it is to persecute the criminal slave-traders, it makes a duty to lay in the presence of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, pledging to him yet more, that on this occasion it is going to expedite an express to Captain Moraes ordering him that he should proceed to take up the position at the bar of the River *Araringua* in the Province of *Santa Catharina*, until the respective President, to whom it will give an account of all, can order him to be relieved by a force of that same province; the same Consul being also able to indulge in the certainty that if, by the new information which the Presidency is proceeding to solicit, it should be discovered that any of the agents of the Government, in the performance of this commission, has not fulfilled his duty, he will be duly punished.

This Presidency finally offers to the consideration of the Honourable H. Pendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, a copy of the confidential despatch which, by this vessel, it has received from the President of the Province of *Santa Catharina*, regarding this same subject, and begging him that he will have the goodness to continue to supply it with all the information which he may be able to collect, and avail, &c.

(Signed) JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 2 in No. 205.

General Order.

(Translation.)

Porto Alegre, May 22, 1854.

THIS Presidency having motives to suppose that some contraband traders in Africans attempt means to pursue this criminal and abominable Traffic, without remembering that, transgressing the laws of the country, they compromise the national dignity, and it being in the duty of this same Presidency to impede, by all the means in its power, that this crime should come to be realized within the territory of this Province, it has resolved to order Captain Marcelino José do Carmo, that, having under his command a detachment of the corps of police, which will be given to him, he should march without delay to the coast of Tramandahy, to form the police guard of those parts, and principally to capture and pursue any traders in Africans who perchance pretend to effect there any debarkation.

On this same occasion, and for the performance of an identical commission, the Presidency has named the Captain of the National Guards, Francisco Antonio de Moraes. The police of the coast from the north of the bar of the River Tramandahy, up to Torres and Mampitaba, being in charge of the latter; and in that of the former, the south of the said bar of Tramandahy, up to Mostardas. Both these officers will help each other reciprocally in the performance of this important commission, as much in the means of guarding the coast to discover suspected vessels which might attempt the land, as in the arrest of the Africans and pursuit of their introducers. Each of these ought repeatedly to exchange communications, that they may be aware of all occurrences, in the certainty that any recompense to which they may have claim by the good performance of this commission, will be divided between them equally, and without other difference than the excess of zeal which each one may show.

In case any debarkation should be realized, the first duty of each of those entrusted with the police will be to communicate with the other, and immediately with this Presidency, pointing out the place of debarkation, and the direction that the contraband traders took; and the one of the two to whom this communication may be directed, ought to march to help the other, both working in common accord, with the principal object of apprehending the Africans, and above all to seize their introducers, whatever may be their position, causing them with all security to proceed to this capital.

Any of the officers charged with this duty, who may require the aid of the National Guard or of the people, will request it in the name and by the order of this Presidency, presenting the inclosed official order; and in the event of its being advisable to enter into an extern province in the pursuit of the introducers of Africans, they can do it, giving notice to the authorities in the place whereby they may pass, of the object for which they go, requesting aid, and begging the quick transmission of the inclosed despatch to the Most Excellent President of the Province of Santa Catharina. To the soldiers who may be employed in this duty, it will be ordered to make an allowance of 300 reis ($7\frac{1}{2}d.$) daily, if their maintenance cannot be obtained for less, according to the accounts which the respective commanders may present. The President of the Province recommends to the officers charged with this service the most faithful execution of the present order.

(Signed) JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 3 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police at Torres to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Estancia do Meio, June 1, 1854.

HAVING overrun the coast, in accordance with your Excellency's order, and even sending to the other Province to Conventos, and nothing new having occurred, I have decided to occupy the centre of the coast, leaving a detachment in the town of Torres and another in Tramandahy, judging this guard thus more secure, conformably as your Excellency has deigned to intrust me.

This is all I have to bring to your Excellency's knowledge.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCISCO ANTONIO DE MORAES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police at Torres to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Encampment near the Estancia do Meio,
June 4, 1854.*

HAVING received a despatch from the Delegate of Police of the city of Laguna, Province of Santa Catharina, in which he warns me that there was a debarkation of 150 Africans on the 1st to the 3rd of May, in the River Tramandahy; as I have overrun this coast from the same Tramandahy up to Mampitaba, I could not know a place where they could have disembarked. In consequence of the adjoined despatch which your Excellency will see, and from the only detachment which existed from the city of Laguna to the River Mampitaba having come to bring the same despatch, I suspected this withdrawing of forces, and from the same commander of the said detachment telling me that a packet-boat, which every one said were Africans whom they wished to disembark, was proceeding from Santa Martha to Conventos, I resolved to pass to the same Province with 11 soldiers, to take cognizance of these notifications, leaving in the same Tramandahy a corporal and a soldier, and another detachment of 3 soldiers in the centre of the coast; on this same occasion I wrote officially to Captain Marcelino José do Carmo to approach nearer to Tramandahy, until I should return to my post.

This is all I have to bring to your Excellency's knowledge.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCISCO ANTONIO DE MORAES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 205.

The Delegate of Police at Laguna to the Commandant of Police at Torres.

(Translation.)

Sir,

*Delegacy of Police of the City of Laguna,
May 31, 1854.*

THIS Delegacy being informed that, on the 1st to the 3rd instant, a debarkation of 150 Africans was effected on the River Tramandahy, it is right that you should inform me with all the circumstances as minutely as possible, in such regard, declaring what was the name, the quality, and nation of the ship, of the loader, the captain, and crew, from whence it proceeded, where it was prepared, on whose account the negotiation was made, who are those involved therein, who assisted the debarkation, whither proceeded the Africans, by whom were they distributed; as also all the other circumstances which you can collect, briefly enlightening me

on the subject; and as it is possible that some of these Africans may have departed for this province, would you also enlighten me in order that it may be discovered where they are, that they may be apprehended in whatever place they may be, even though they should already have been sold. I hope that you may inform me, circumstantially, in order that I with greater certainty may enlighten the Government of this province.

(Signed)

JOSE ANTONIO FERNANDES VIANNA.

Inclosure 6 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police Do Carmo to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Cerquinha, June 7, 1854.

I IMPART to your Excellency that on the 26th of the last month, I arrived at the house of Fermiano José Luiz Ozorio, distant one league from the bar of the River Tramandahy, and as the weather, in consequence of the great rain which there was, did not give an opportunity to proceed, I arranged to make some inquiries from persons of the same house relating to the service, according to the instructions and orders which were entrusted to me by your Excellency.

On the 29th I betook myself with the detachment to the bar of the said river, and passing one league and a half to the other side of the same, to the house of Manoel Alves, near the shore, trying to discover whether Captain Moraes was already occupying that point, and on the 31st I was able to reach the town of Serra with two soldiers of my command, who returned informing me that the same Captain had proceeded to the neighbourhood of Torres.

On the 1st I again passed the same bar betaking myself to Silveira, this being a place beyond which the bad weather did not allow me to advance. On the 3rd I departed for Cerquinha, distant two leagues, and near the coast, from which I have not neglected to adopt all precautionary measures to the end of fulfilling properly the commission with which I am entrusted.

It rests with me to submit to your Excellency that from this place to Mostardas there are twenty-one leagues, and that I find myself deprived of horses, in consequence of the denial which some residents of this coast make, telling me that they are without horses for the use of their establishments, and it is on this account that I have made small stoppages, and even in consequence of the bad state of the roads. At this date I follow for Portirinha, at two and a half leagues distance, and shall follow with some days' delay up to the height of Mostardas; and as soon as I can obtain an improvement in the animals, I shall return to remain in Guintão, which I judge the centre, in order that the necessary watches should be placed to discover any indication there may be of a debarkation by the said traders.

It also rests with me to expose to your Excellency that some horses for sale have appeared at the price of 6 or 7 dollars, and as I am not fortified with an order for such an object this is the motive why I have not purchased them; it being of much urgency, in order each day to exercise frequent vigilance over the shore, since the place where there are resources of water and pasture is always distant from the shore from one to two leagues, and without having a change of horses it remains more difficult to perform well the service.

This is all I have to bring to your Excellency's knowledge; also, indeed, at this date Senhor _____, who is here, and one soldier, proceed to receive the arrears of the pay of the said soldiers.

(Signed)

MARCELINO JOSE DO CARMO.

Inclosure 7 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police Do Carmo to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Near the Bar of Tramandahy,**June 9, 1854.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency's hands the inclosed copy of the despatch directed to me by the Captain charged with the commission from Torres, at the other side of Tramandahy; and as it appeared from the said despatches that 150 Africans had already disembarked, I planned immediately to countermarch for the said River Tramandahy, and minutely to make the necessary investigations, in regard to the inhabitants of the place; and as it was not possible for me to discover such a debarkation, and from there not being any indications with regard to such an object, I left two soldiers of confidence, to await with all vigilance, and to impart to me any movement of vessels upon this point, and at this date I return to overrun the coast up to the point which was marked out to me.

This is all I have to communicate to your Excellency.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

MARCELINO JOSE DO CARMO.

Inclosure 8 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police at Torres to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Encampment near Estancia do Meio,**June 18, 1854.*

HAVING passed the frontiers of the Province, as I communicated to your Excellency in my official despatch dated the 4th instant, and having inquired respecting the packet-boat (palhabote) which was between Conventos and Santa Martha, the residents informed me it was engaged in the Slave Trade, and the pilot of that bar told me that the said vessel had on various occasions tried to enter within the bar, and a steamer in pursuit having approached the said vessel on one of those days, it made sail and disappeared, and I judge that the point of debarkation is between the said hills, because there is no force of any kind, because the bar of Araringua is very free from impediments; also from the pilot telling me that there are always six palms of water when it is dry, and that the said vessel draws less water; and that the said river is navigable up to the Hill dos Auzentes, district of Vaccaria, and from meeting with a yacht within the said river, and from its being customary that more vessels of commerce should enter, and from there being in Santa Martha an anchorage where the sea remains always calm. I agreed to withdraw, because I did not know the success of the said steamer. This is what your Excellency has ordered in this respect.

(Signed)

FRANCISCO ANTONIO DE MORAES.

Inclosure 9 in No. 205.

The President of St. Catherine's to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Government Palace, Santa Catharina,**June 21, 1854.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge as received your Excellency's confidential despatch of the 22nd May last, communicating to me your having had a denouncement that a vessel was attempting to effect a landing of Africans on the coast where are the limits of these two Provinces, and that in order to impede it, and to apprehend the Africans, and to

pursue the traffickers in case they should effect the object, you had charged the Captain of the National Guard, Francisco Antonio de Moraes, authorising him to pursue them even into this Province, communicating with the authorities of this Province, and requiring from them the necessary aids. Having expedited similar orders to the authorities of Laguna, I am informed that, in common accord with the said Captain, they employ themselves in repressing the Traffic in Africans, and in giving no quarter to the traders, whom on every account we ought to persecute.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 10 in No. 205.

Consul Vereker to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, July 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 30th ultimo, with the documents therein inclosed, and to thank your Excellency for the frankness with which you have communicated with me on the subject to which that despatch refers.

I am sure the Government of Her Majesty the Queen will learn with satisfaction of the zeal and energy with which your Excellency is determined to check any attempts to renew the Slave Trade in this Province.

I avail myself of the opportunity to express my full confidence in the sincerity with which your Excellency is prepared to act in this matter.

The clear instructions which the Presidency has issued to the police authorities charged with watching the coast, if carried out with efficiency, cannot fail on this occasion to have a very useful result. Your Excellency will allow me to call your attention to an omission, inadvertent, perhaps, but nevertheless of great importance; I allude to the absence of special directions to arrest, with a view to punishment, any residents of the coast who may receive or purchase any Africans illegally landed; for it is by punishing those residents in the country who purchase, receive, conceal, or in any manner trade in Africans after landing, that the rightful liberty of these unfortunates will be secured, and the fatal blow given to these wicked and detestable speculations in Africans which retard the progress of this Empire, and are specially injurious to the best interests of this Province.

Your Excellency may rest assured that I shall communicate to the Presidency any important and authentic information that may reach me of the landing of Africans, projected or effected.

From a consideration of your Excellency's despatch of the 30th ultimo and its inclosures, I am led to believe that the river called in my despatch of the 20th of that month the Iguay, is the same as that alluded to by your Excellency as the Araringua, and though out of the bounds of this Province, yet there can be no doubt that any Africans landed there were debarked so near to the frontiers of this Province that they might be introduced here; thus a double duty rests on the authorities of both provinces that they should frustrate the success of this attempt of reviving the Slave Trade, an attempt which has, I am inclined to believe, been long since planned, and which, if successful on this occasion, will necessarily lead to further speculations of the same criminal kind.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 206.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of July, inclosing copies of further correspondence which had passed between the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul and yourself, respecting the reported landing of a cargo of slaves on the frontiers of Santa Catharina, on the 11th and 12th of June last, and I have to inform you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the President on the 21st of July.

With reference to this alleged landing of slaves, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, inclosing a translation of a note addressed to him on the 12th of August by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which Senhor de Abreo states that the report of such landing is entirely without foundation; and I have to desire that you will ascertain and report to me whether you were in reality misinformed on this point or not.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 207.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon. —(Received October 12.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, August 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the translation of a further note I received from the President of this province, in reference to the reported landing of Africans in the Province of Santa Catharina, near the frontiers of this province; and also translations of the documents transmitted with the President's note, consisting of two despatches from the President of Santa Catharina, and of one from the Chief of Police of that province.

In these documents, it is attempted to prove that the alleged landing of Africans was not effected; but this conclusion is drawn from, it appears to me, very insufficient grounds: the reasons adduced are at least not of that force to induce me to disbelieve the statements I have received from several trustworthy individuals, who affirm that a landing was successfully accomplished, and whose opinion in this respect seems shared by very many of the inhabitants of the coast from this port to the Araringuá.

I have the honour also to inclose a copy of the despatch I address on this subject to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro; and to state that I have communicated to Her Majesty's Consul at Santa Catharina the explanation given by the President of that province, of the conduct of the Delegate of Laguna.

Finally, I submit to your Lordship a copy of the reply which I address this day to the President of this province. Having regard to the fact that very few of the Africans landed at Tramandahy in the year 1852 have been discovered by the authorities, I cannot hope that the various correspondence which has taken place relative to the report which reached this Consulate of a landing at the Araringuá (in a far more difficult country) will lead to the release of any negroes who may have been disembarked; but I trust, nevertheless, it will not be without useful results, specially in urging the authorities of this and the adjoining province to renewed energy, and to a more combined system of action.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

* No. 141.

Inclosure 1 in No. 207.

*The President of Rio Grande do Sul to Consul Vereker.**Palace of the Presidency, Porto Alegre,
August 1, 1854.*

(Translation.)

THIS Presidency, with the greatest satisfaction, transmits to the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande, the inclosed copies of correspondence which it has received from the President of the Province of Santa Catharina, and by it the same Consul will know that the information he had, and which he imparted to the Presidency in his despatch of June last, was not correctly true relative to a supposed debarkation of Africans on the coasts of Tramandahy or Araringua, Province of Santa Catharina, on the 11th and 12th of the same month.

The inspection made on the coast of that province by the very worthy Chief of Police, whose report accompanies the despatch of the Presidency, and all the communications which have come to the knowledge of this Presidency, whether in private ways or by the official correspondence of police and military authorities, charged with the guard and fiscal regulations of the coast of this and the neighbouring province, accord in affirming that such a debarkation did not take place, and neither was it possible it should, by means of the precautions which, by sea and land, were taken by the Delegates of the Imperial Government.

The President reiterates, &c.

(Signed) JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 2 in No. 207.

The President of St. Catherine's to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Government House, Santa Catharina,
July 11, 1854.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge as received your Excellency's despatch of the 30th June last, accompanying copies of the correspondence of the agents charged by your Excellency to repress the Traffic in Africans on the coast where are divided these two provinces, and of the correspondence between your Excellency and Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande.

Well aware of the contents of all, it rests with me to make your Excellency, for your information, see what has passed from the beginning of May, in which the denouncement of the intended debarkation on the coast above referred to reached me from the Imperial Government.

As it was my duty, I reiterated on the 5th of said May to the Delegate of Laguna the orders regarding the repression of the Traffic, directing him to inform me if there were any intentions or indications of the attempt to disembark which it was said was projected between Santa Martha and Tramandahy.

On the 27th May a person of this capital presented himself before me, and told me that a person, come from Laguna, and who had already departed, declared to him in conversation that an individual who had arrived from Laguna on the night of the 23rd, declared in a house that he had arrived at the Tramandahy in a newly-constructed packet-boat, under an American flag, and on the 1st to the 3rd of May disembarked in the pinnace of the packet-boat 150 Africans; that he had ordered the packet-boat to Santos, whither he intended to proceed, the pinnace remaining abandoned on the shore in consequence of the sea having commenced to grow rough; that he delayed in the neighbourhood of Tramandahy until the 22nd of the said month, as he had to conclude the business of this debarkation, and that of 1852 (at the end of March or beginning of April) since he was the same who had effected it.

Although this appeared to me an invention, as it was sufficiently difficult to debark Africans in a small pinnace from the packet-boat on a coast almost always rough, even in time of calm, and, from many boat-loads being necessary, and from its not being possible that a contraband trader who had already disposed of all the Africans should denounce himself, and should even declare the destination of the ship; nevertheless, I officially addressed the Delegate of Laguna on the same day (27th May), and it was by virtue of this my despatch that the Delegate addressed that of the 30th of the same month to the Commandant of the district of Torres.

The then sixth substitute of the Delegate, José Antonio Fernandes Vianna, who addressed that despatch, is a man of very narrow intellect, but a person of recognized probity, and incapable of being deficient in truth. He, from the small force which he had at his disposal, could not effect the arrest of the contraband traders, but he would be exact in informing the Presidency of all that came to his knowledge, as he has always done.

Your Excellency should note that, notwithstanding the esteem I have for this Delegate, I caused the Chief of Police to proceed to Laguna on the 7th June, who arrived there on the night of the 8th, and proceeding up to before Camacho, and having recourse to the most minute searches, he did not encounter the slightest indication of the Traffic in Africans, as your Excellency will see from his despatch dated the 13th, adjoined by copy.

The Chief of Police left Laguna on the 18th, convinced that all the reports were unfounded, and that it was impossible that any debarkation had taken place from Torres to Santa Martha which, within three days, would not be public in Laguna.

A part of the detachment which was guarding the coast of the Araringuá arrived in this capital on the 8th, having gone from there at the beginning of this month, and a serjeant of the police, a man who deserves from me sufficient esteem, affirms to me that, up to that date, there was nothing, and that the notice which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul gave your Excellency was wholly without foundation.

The packet-boat of which he speaks of having been seen off the coast cannot be other than the "Campião da Liberdade," which left Rio Grande with beef, cleared for San Francisco, calling at this port, and which was visited by the steam-corvette "Pedro Segundo," and which tacked with a slight north-east wind on the 26th and 28th in front of the coast of Laguna, as was verified by the statement of its course when it entered this port.

The three steamers which, from May to this time, have cruized by the coast, declared that they saw no other.

In the middle of last June I could ascertain that the person who boasted of having effected the debarkation in the Tramandahy on the 1st of May, arrived, in effect, at Laguna in the night of the 23rd May, and kept himself, during the entire of the day of the 24th, within the house of Francisco de Souza Machado Cravo, who did not know him, but to whom he brought a letter from a relation of Cravo's (also Cravo), residing in that province (Rio Grande do Sul), who, leaving Laguna on the 25th, arrived here in the night of the 26th, and from hence proceeded, on the 27th, to Rio de Janeiro in the brigantine "Alberto." He said he was called Joaquim Silveira; I suspect, however, that he had changed his name, and that he was Fernando Soares Vianna, from a person who saw him telling me that he was very like the said Fernando.

In view of what is stated I entertain the conviction that no debarkation has been made since that of 1852 on the coast which divides this from the other province, and that all these denunciations, which have been given as well to the Imperial Government as to your Excellency and to me, have no foundation, and that, notwithstanding it rests with us to continue the precautionary measures respecting the Traffic.

As this province has no more than sixty-six soldiers of police, and only fourteen of cavalry, and no force of the 1st Regiment of the Line, it

is not possible for me to cause the detachment ordered by your Excellency to be posted in Araringuá to be relieved, and therefore I ask your Excellency that you deign to permit it to remain there until the Most Excellent Minister of Justice, from whom I requested precautions on the 25th June, should authorize me to make the necessary expenses, or as long as to your Excellency should appear convenient.

I shall not finish this without observing to your Excellency that the Bar of Araringuá is not so accessible as Captain Moraes says; and so much so, that at present there navigates thither only one yacht, there having been lost, even there, two others, which previously navigated to that place.

On this occasion I officially address the Delegate of Laguna to continue in accord with the Commandant of the Forces of that province (*Rio Grande do Sul*) in the precautionary measures and pursuit of the contraband traders in Africans.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 207.

The Chief of Police to the President of St. Catherine's.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Laguna, June 13, 1854.

I ARRIVED in this city on the night of the 8th instant; and notwithstanding having made the most minute searches, whether in the course of the voyage or during my stay here, I could collect nothing which confirms the denouncement that a packet-boat was prepared for the Traffic in Africans on the south coast of this province, and of the debarkation being expected in Santa Martha or Tramandahy, at least in combination with, and in the interest of, the inhabitants of the place. The coast of this Santa Martha up to Torres has been constantly guarded, and nothing to lead to suspicion has been encountered.

A force of the Province of Rio Grande forms the police of the coast from Torres to the River Tramandahy; and also there nothing has occurred, as your Excellency will see from the adjoined despatch of the Commandant of that force, the falseness of the notice of a debarkation in that river in the beginning of the past month being accordingly confirmed.

I informed myself, from the Master of the Bar, and from Manoel Marques, contractor for the road from Santa Martha, respecting the fact they stated to Marcelino Rosa, and which he referred to your Excellency, of a yacht which was some days sailing off and on the coast; and they both told me that in effect they had sighted that yacht at some distance on the 26th and 27th, and that on those days a slight breeze from the north-east was blowing, by which I presume it to be the same yacht which the steamer "Pedro Segundo" visited in these parts on the 28th, and which was tacking in expectation of a south wind, to enter that port (Desterro), where in effect it entered some days afterwards; and so much the more do I presume so, because the said master and Manoel Marques told me that they saw a steamer, probably the "Pedro Segundo," pass by the said yacht. I visited the Cape Santa Martha, which is without doubt a fit place, not only because it admits of disembarking, whatever may be the wind; it happening that a point of land which goes out to sea forms two small curves to the north and to the south, as also from having a road which proceeds to the mountains passing by Tubarão, but reflecting that that cape is distant scarcely two leagues from this city, and that it is in the course of a frequented road; that therefore no preparation can be made without its being quickly known

and communicated, and that the passage of the Africans can be immediately stopped, it is recognized that the disembarking can only be made with success, there being connivance on the part of the authorities; now there is not motive for not confiding in them.

Besides the Cape of Santa Martha, there exists only one point accessible for small boats with great risk, which is the old Bar of the Araringuá, near to which departs a road to the mountains; but this bar, which is always dangerous, becomes some days entirely impracticable. As, however, the temerity of the traders causes them to face all dangers, and that the secret of their schemes is not always discovered by the zeal and diligence of the police, I judge it convenient to exercise the most active vigilance; and for this purpose I have determined to establish detachments on the height of Santa Martha, from whence is seen the coast as far as the sight reaches, and on the Bar of the Araringuá, distant from that Cape ten leagues, and twelve from Torres, ordering the guards to watch the shores, and to communicate immediately any proof or suspicion to the authorities of the city, and to the Commandant of the force of Torres, who is in intelligence with the same, and in the disposition to assist in any point which may be necessary, and to help the police of the coast of this province, having already as the effect of this combination caused the guard to proceed up to Araringuá. In consideration of these arrangements, it appears to me that it will be difficult that, in the event of there being a landing, the criminal traders should succeed in their attempts.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE CAETANO DE ANDRADE PINTO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 207.

The President of St. Catherine's to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Palace of the Presidency, Santa Catharina,

July 18, 1854.

ON the 8th and 9th a yacht, which proved to be the "Cysne," which entered here on the 15th, having left Rio Grande with beef at the end of June last, proceeded tacking on the coast of Santa Martha, and rather more to the south, the which I communicate to your Excellency for your information. The Delegate of Police of Laguna, officially writing to me under date of the 13th, states that he is not informed of anything respecting the Traffic in Africans having occurred up to that date.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 207.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, August 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of further correspondence with the Presidency of this Province regarding the reported landing of Africans at the Araringuá.

The despatch of the President of Santa Catharina, dated 11th July, it will be perceived, contains the assertion that the information regarding the projected or effected landing of Africans in the neighbourhood of Araringuá, which reached the Imperial Government and this Consulate, as well as the Presidencies of these adjoining provinces, are all without

foundation, and this assertion is based upon the despatch of the Chief of Police, a copy of which is inclosed, and upon the verbal statement of a policeman.

The despatch referred to of the Chief of Police, is dated from Laguna on the 13th June; it therefore can have no weight whatever in an inquiry as to whether a landing of Africans did not take place at about fifty miles distance from Laguna on the 12th June.

The statement of the policeman seems of no greater value, as he appears to belong to the very same force whose commander (Captain Moraes declares) stated that "a packet-boat, which every one said was a trader with Africans whom they wished to disembark, was sailing between Santa Martha and Conventos," and who nevertheless under such circumstances thought it consistent with his duty to leave his post at the expected point of debarkation, with all the force under his command, and proceed to this province.

I may add, that the vigilance of the authorities in rendering certain the seizure of any Africans who might be landed, appears asserted rather unfortunately in conjunction with the reference to the landing in 1852; for I am informed, that out of about 300 landed on that occasion, the authorities have only been able to discover 23.

I have to ask your indulgence for my not being more precise in the information I have conveyed on this matter. The reported place of landing is not only out of my jurisdiction, but about 200 miles from this city, in a country thinly peopled, woody, and mountainous, which has rarely any communications with this port. In addition to the first information which I conveyed, and which has since been confirmed by the various documents I received from the Presidency in most particulars, excepting the actual landing of the negroes, I have heard from several other quarters that a landing did take place in the Araringuá (sometimes called Irgua or Iguay), and the number is stated to have been nearly 100, but it appears to me that this is not positively known.

I would also call your attention to the suspicious proceedings of Joaquim Silveira, otherwise Fernando Soares Vianna, as stated in Senhor Coutinho's despatch.

In conclusion, I may observe that the packet-boat to which my informants referred as a slaver which landed her cargo in the second week of June, could not have been the yacht "Camião da Liberdade," which left this port on the 17th May, passed Laguna on the 28th May, and probably reached Desterro at the end of that month; much less could it have been the yacht "Cysne," which left this port on the 27th June, and arrived at Desterro on the 15th July.

Inclosure 6 in No. 207.

Consul Vereker to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

Rio Grande do Sul, August 14, 1854.

THE Undersigned, the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the confidential despatch of his Excellency Senhor João Luis Vieira Causausão de Sinimbú, dated the 1st instant, and of the documents therein inclosed, regarding the reported landing of Africans at Ararangua.

The Undersigned regrets the information conveyed to him does not allow him to share in the opinion expressed by the President of Santa Catharina, that the denunciations on this subject which have reached his Excellency, as well as the Imperial Government, and the Presidency and British Consulate in this Province, are all without foundation; but, recognizing the active diligence exercised by the Presidency of this

Province, he will limit himself at present to thanking his Excellency the President for the information conveyed to this Consulate, assuring him that should any positive elucidation of the question reach this Consulate, the Undersigned will without delay impart it to his Excellency.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 208.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, November 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 1st ultimo, in which your Lordship is pleased to communicate to me your approval of the note I addressed to the President of this province on the 21st July last, respecting a landing of negroes near the frontiers of this province.

I have also received the inclosures in that despatch.

My despatch of the 14th August last, with its inclosures, will, I trust, have anticipated the wishes of your Lordship to obtain further information respecting this alleged landing of negroes, and I regret to have now to state that every inquiry since that date has served to confirm the conviction that the information which I conveyed to the President of the province on the 20th June, was substantially correct.

With reference to Senhor Limpo de Abreo's remark in his note to Mr. H. F. Howard of the 12th August last, in regard to the name of the river selected as a place of debarkation, I need only observe that the position of that river was so far explained in the despatches of this Consulate as to render its identity unmistakeable.

No. 209.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a return, showing the average prices of slaves in this province during the past six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 209.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during the six months ending December 31, 1854.

Classes of Slaves.	Average prices in six-monthly periods ending				Increase in last six months.	Decrease in last six months.
	June 30, 1854.		December 31, 1854.			
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>						
Males . . .	710,800	76 18 4	700,800	75 16 8	..	1 1 8
Females . . .	675,800	73 2 6	660,800	71 10 0	..	1 12 6
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males . . .	795,800	86 2 6	800,800	86 13 4	0 10 10	
Females . . .	740,800	80 3 4	740,800	80 3 4		
<i>Mining.</i>						
	None.					
<i>Newly Imported.</i>						
Males . . .	..	..	450,800	48 15 0		
Females . . .	..	..	425,800	46 0 10		

Exchange at 2s. 2d. per milreis.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul*.
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, December 31, 1854.

No. 210.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose memoranda, showing the changes in the slave population of this province by the arrivals and departures through this port.

It appears by this list that, during the past six months, the number of free persons who have entered this province through this port have exceeded those who have departed by 613, whilst, on the other hand, the slaves who have left have exceeded in number those who have entered by 86.

From the best information I can collect, it does not appear that the Bozal negroes introduced in this province since June last have amounted to 80; there consequently appears to have been a diminution in the number of persons treated as slaves in this province.

As the returns, similar to the inclosed, have been continued so far as to show that a regular diminution in the number of slaves in this province is taking place, I do not purpose, unless I should receive contrary instructions, to trouble your Lordship with more of these returns, limiting myself to entering in the annual reports on slavery such useful information as may be obtained.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 210.

RETURN showing the diminution of Slavery by the Arrivals and Departures of Slaves and other persons through the Port of Rio Grande do Sul, during the six-monthly period ending December 31, 1854.

British Subjects.

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	5
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	42
Decrease of British subjects in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port .						37

Free Foreigners (excluding Soldiers).

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	1,097
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	447
Increase of free Foreigners in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port .						650

Slaves accompanying their Masters.

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	25
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	51
Decrease of these slaves in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port ..						26

Slaves for Sale.

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	9
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	69
Decrease of these slaves in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port ..						60

Total decrease in slavery by departure of slaves <i>viâ</i> this Port ..						86
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(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, Consul.
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, December 30, 1854.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio de Janeiro.*

No. 211.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, inclosed, a return of the vessels reported to have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the past quarter, and also a list of the sailings for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 211.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 January 17	Schooner	Lice ..	M. Gonçalves ..	Portuguese ..	105	9	Loanda ..	Days, 32	Sundries.
February 7	Ship ..	Banshee ..	T. T. Wingat ..	American ..	490	14	Cape Palmas ..	35	Ballast.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 211.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 March 5	Schooner ..	Lice ..	M. Gonçalves ..	Portuguese ..	105	9	Benguella and Loanda	Sundries

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

No. 212.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1854.

IN accordance with the instructions contained in Viscount Palmerston's circular despatch of the 4th of October, 1850, I have the honour to transmit herewith a return, showing the prices of slaves in this province during the last half-year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 212.

RETURN showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, during the half-year ending June 30, 1854, as far as can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves.						Price of Slaves as per last Return, in Sterling.				Remarks.	
	In currency.		In sterling.									
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
<i>Agricultural.</i>												
Males	950\$	1,000\$	106	17	6	to 112	10	0	105	0	0	to 116 13 4
Females	800\$	900	90	0	0	101	5	0	93	6	8	105 0 0
<i>Mining.</i>												
Males	}	About the same as Agricultural.										
Females												
<i>Domestic.</i>												
Males	1,000\$	1,400\$	112	10	0	157	10	0	116	13	4	163 6 8
Females	1,000\$	1,400\$	112	10	0	157	10	0	116	13	4	163 6 8
<i>Newly Imported.</i>												
Males	}	None lately imported.										
Females												

Very little alteration in the prices since last return.

The exchange at which the above calculations are made is 2s. 3d. per milreis.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul.**Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1854.*

No. 213.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, during the past quarter, no arrivals are reported from the coast of Africa, and that no vessels have sailed from this port for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

No. 214.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, during the last quarter, no vessels are reported as having arrived from the coast of Africa, and that no vessels cleared from this port for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

No. 215.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a return of the vessels that are reported to have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the last quarter, and also a list of the departures for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 215.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 December 6	Brig ..	Julia ..	G. P. da Silva ..	Portuguese.. ..	149	11	Angola	Days. 31	Wax and oil.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul*.

Inclosure 2 in No. 215.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 October 5	Brig ..	Sofia ..	A. de S. Rosa ..	Portuguese.. ..	173.	11	Benguella and Loanda ..	Sundries

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul*.

No. 216.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1855.

IN accordance with the instructions contained in Viscount Palmerston's circular, dated October 4, 1850, I have the honour to transmit herewith a return, showing the prices of slaves in this province during the last six months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 216.

RETURN showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro during the half-year ending December 31, 1854, as far as can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves.						Price of Slaves as per last Return, in Sterling.				
	In Currency.		In Sterling.								
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>											
Males	1,000\$	1,200\$	116	13	4	140	0	0	106	17	6
Females	800\$	1,000\$	93	6	8	116	13	4	90	0	0
<i>Mining.</i>											
Males	} About the same as Agricultural.										
Females											
<i>Domestic.</i>											
Males	1,000\$	1,500\$	116	13	4	175	0	0	112	10	0
Females	1,000\$	1,400\$	116	13	4	163	6	8	112	10	0
<i>Newly Imported.</i>											
Males	} None imported during the last six months.										
Females											

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.
Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1855.

No. 217.

"

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that, as far as I have been able to ascertain, no slaves were landed in this province direct from the coast of Africa during the past year.

I inclose a return, showing the quantity and value of produce exported during the year 1854, by which your Lordship will perceive that, while coffee, the principal article of export, has considerably increased, the other exports have diminished.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 217.

STATEMENT of the Amount and Value of Exports of the staple productions of Rio de Janeiro, the result of Slave Labour during the year 1854.

Description of Produce.	Quantity.	Sterling value, including Shipping Charges and Duties.			Total.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coffee	1,986,059 bags	5,200,000	0	0			
Sugar	6,128 cases	74,000	0	0			
Rosewood, . . .	32,544 planks	84,000	0	0	5,358,000	0	0
The value of other articles of produce, such as Hides, Horns, Rice, Tapioca, Rum, Tobacco, Ipecacuanha, &c., exported during 1854, may be estimated at about					300,000	0	0
Total value of produce shipped during 1854 ..					5,658,000	0	0

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD,
Consul.

BRAZIL. (Consular)—*St. Catherine's.*

No. 218.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, March 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been imported into this province during the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

No. 219.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, July 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that no slaves have been introduced into this province during the quarter ended the 30th of June.

On account of information given out in Rio Janeiro, that a landing of slaves would be attempted to the south of this island, that part of the coast has been well watched by Her Majesty's and the Brazilian cruisers. No landing having been tried, or any suspicious vessels seen, it is the general opinion that the information is incorrect and given out for the purpose of misleading the cruisers.

On the 15th ultimo, arrived from Monte Video a Spanish polacca brig, the "*Antilla*," of about 140 tons, Eleonor Millet, master and owner, with a crew of ten men besides, seeking freight. One thousand dollars were offered to charter her to Monte Video; this was refused, though I am told it was a good offer, the master preferring to clear out for Maranham in ballast. The mate of this vessel having been recognized as one of the crew of the "*Catão*," condemned in July 1851 by the Brazilian Government, and as one of the pretended passengers of the "*Tentadora*," detained here by the Brazilian Government in April 1852, the suspicions of the authorities were excited as to the character of the "*Antilla*." She was accordingly searched twice, but nothing indicative of slave-trading purposes was found on board; she is a sharp-built vessel, and is said to sail well; and when here the hull was painted all black. The master is reported to have a considerable amount of money on board. She was dispatched by the Custom-house on the 17th ultimo, but did not sail for some days afterwards, being detained for search, and owing to foul winds.

It is thought that this vessel may be intended for the Cuban Slave Trade; she sailed for Maranham by way of Bahia and Pernambuco. I have written to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio Janeiro respecting her.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

No. 220.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, August 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that on the 23rd ultimo, I received information from Mr. Consul Vereker of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of the Province of Rio Grande, where it touches this province on the coast.

I now beg to lay before your Lordship copies of correspondence which has taken place in consequence, and by which your Lordship will perceive that this reported landing of Africans is without foundation, and up to this date nothing further has transpired to corroborate the report of any landing having been effected.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

P.S.—*August 10.* I have just heard from Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande. He states he has no sufficient reason to believe that the landing of Africans did not really take place; but he still hopes to be able to obtain evidence of such a conclusive kind as to silence all expressions of doubt.

R. C.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 220.
Consul Callander to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 20th instant, respecting the Spanish brig "*Antilla*," the Brazilian vessel said to have fitted out at Garopas for Slave Trade, and expected to land a cargo of Africans near the southern frontier of this province on the coast, and Mr. Consul Vereker's report of the disembarkation of Africans near Torres.

I beg to inclose herewith copies of correspondence between Mr. Consul Vereker, the President of this province, and myself, relative to a reported landing of negroes at Iguay, near the southern frontier of this province.

I had not even heard a rumour of this reported landing, though the President seems to have been informed of it by the President of Rio Grande on the 30th ultimo.

In the President's letter to me of yesterday he represents the reports in circulation as being entirely without foundation, and even disseminated by worthless persons for their own amusement.

Latterly rumours have obtained that vessels have been seen hovering on the coast in a suspicious manner, but on investigation they turned out to be hiaes and other small craft beating against foul winds to enable them to reach their destinations.

It was also said lately that about ten new negroes had been seen passing through the streets of this city at night, but the statement in like manner was found to be devoid of truth.

I had a long conversation with the Chief of Police here yesterday, who states that he has investigated the reports which have reached him respecting attempts at renewal of Slave Trade in this province, and in every case he has found them devoid of truth.

Respecting the Brazilian vessel said to have fitted out at Garopas for the Slave Trade, he thinks such was not the case, as he was at Garopas probably about the time this vessel is said to have fitted out, and he neither saw nor heard anything about her.

I understand some suspicion is attached to a hiate called the "*Vencedor*" or "*Invencível Catharinense*," sold here to an individual named Martins, and intended for the coasting trade between Pernambuco and

Assú. She left here in ballast about four months ago, I suppose, and I heard had gone to St. Matheus to load farinha. A few days ago a person who had just arrived from Rio told me it was reported there that this hiate has been taken by a British cruizer on the coast of Africa.

I believe the two Brazilian steamers stationed here are about to return to Rio, leaving a brigantine on the station.

At Torres I am told there is a force at present of fifty men.

I hear it stated here, that as the war in Europe will cause the withdrawal of many of Her Majesty's cruisers from this and the African coast, the slavemongers may be induced to seize the opportunity of engaging again in their former occupation.

I do not fail to be on the alert respecting any infraction of the Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Brazil, and will bear in mind your instructions to report according as I may obtain information.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 220.

Consul Vereker to Consul Callander, June 22, 1854.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 198.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 23, 1854.

YOUR letter of the 22nd ultimo, informing me of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the southern frontier of this province, has just been received. It had been sent on to Rio de Janeiro by mistake, which accounts for its delay on reaching me.

Your letter gives me the first news of a disembarkation of negroes, and though so long a time has elapsed since then, no one here seems to be aware that a landing had taken place.

Her Majesty's steamer "Rifleman" arrived here, from a cruize to the south of this island, on the 10th instant, and the Brazilian steamer "Recife" came in a few days ago from the south, but they did not see anything suspicious.

I will immediately communicate the information contained in your letter to the President, who will probably send a man-of-war to the place where the landing is said to have taken place. Meanwhile, you may be sure I will do all in my power to obtain the liberation of the unfortunate Africans, and also, if possible, to bring to justice the individuals connected with the illegal act of landing or receiving them.

Should any of the vessels implicated in the conveying or landing of these negroes arrive here, I will endeavour to have them detained.

I will communicate with you by first opportunity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to the President of St. Catherine's. "

Excellent Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 24, 1854.

HER Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul informs me, under date the 22nd ultimo, of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of this province where it touches the Province of Rio Grande do Sul on the coast.

The landing is stated to have been effected from a coasting-vessel,

which received the negroes from a larger vessel, supposed to have come from the coast of Africa.

I only received the above information yesterday.

The letter of Her Majesty's Consul having been forwarded to Rio de Janeiro by mistake, accounts for the length of time it took in reaching me.

I feel assured I have only to bring the above information to your Excellency's knowledge to subject it to a thorough investigation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 220.

The President of St. Catherine's to Consul Callander.

(Translation.)

*Presidency of the Province of St. Catherine's,
July 24, 1854.*

Sir,

YOUR official letter, dated yesterday, was presented to this Presidency, communicating to me your having received from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande, information under date of the 22nd ultimo, of the landing of a great number of Africans at the River Iguay on the south coast and frontier of this province with that of Rio Grande, and that the disembarkation was effected by coasting vessels, which received the Africans from another vessel which, it is supposed, came from the coast of Africa.

Similar information was given under date of the 20th by the said Consul to the President of Rio Grande, who communicated with me on the 30th ultimo.

This Presidency and that of Rio Grande having obtained the most minute information, it was not possible to collect any data that could in the least cause suspicion of there having been such disembarkation, since all the agents and custom-house officers of this province, as well as of Rio Grande, affirm there was nothing; and this official information is as true as the information that was given to the Consul at Rio Grande is unfounded. A disembarkation is then impracticable in the place indicated, unless the vessel should remain aground, and so be left to be observed by the custom-house officers who patrol those places, and by all the inhabitants and travellers.

You may believe that the information which was given to the said Consul does not exceed rumours without foundation, and even spread by persons of little consideration, who divert themselves with them.

Other rumours of this nature have come to the knowledge of this Presidency, which has verified the falsity of them.

Notwithstanding what is said above, this Presidency will have much satisfaction in receiving from you communications of all that comes to your knowledge about the Traffic, however unfounded it may appear, because the extinction of the African Slave Trade being the great pledge of the Governments of His Majesty the Emperor and of Her Britannic Majesty, the Undersigned apprehends that he ought not to despise those rumours before verifying their falsity.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to the President of St. Catherine's.

Excellent Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, acquainting me with the reasons that would make it appear that the information respecting the landing of Africans at Iguay is without foundation.

As you further acquaint me that it will give much satisfaction my communicating whatever may come to my knowledge respecting the Traffic of Africans, however groundless it may appear, on the understanding that these rumours ought not to be despised before being verified, I take the opportunity of mentioning that Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of the Empire has called my attention to the fact that a Brazilian vessel said to have been fitted out at Garopas for the Slave Trade, and to have sailed some time ago for the coast of Africa, has been long expected on the frontiers of the coasts of this province and Rio Grande with a cargo of Africans.

This information appears to coincide with that received by Mr. Consul Vereker at Rio Grande; and as all the reports at present in circulation tend to the same point, it may be judged requisite to institute some further inquiries, as well as to keep a surveillance on the part of the coast indicated by the rumours in question.

In the meantime I shall have the satisfaction of forwarding your letter for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 7 in No. 220.

The President of St. Catherine's to Consul Callander.

(Translation.)
Sir,

Presidency of the Province of St. Catherine's,
July 26, 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction to acknowledge the receipt of your official letter, dated yesterday, acknowledging the receipt of mine of the 24th instant, about the denounced disembarkation at Iguay; and acquainting me of having been informed by your Minister at the Court, that in Garopas a vessel had been prepared to go to the coast of Africa for slaves, and to disembark them on the south coast, at the boundary of this province with that of Rio Grande.

The denunciation of a hiate being prepared in Garopas for the Traffic, was communicated about the end of May by my Government.

The fact denounced did not take place, as is attested not only by the local authorities, but also by the commanders of the vessels employed in cruising, who visited all the ports in order to make inquiry in respect of it from the fishermen and other inhabitants of the coast.

The Chief of Police, who was at the north from the end of April to the 13th of May, and in Garopas on the 10th and 11th, informed me that, having proceeded to the most minute investigations respecting the Traffic of Africans, he could obtain nothing that could in the least cause suspicion of any preparation having been made; because, from all of whom he obtained information, he received this sole answer, "There has been nothing, and it is more than two years since anything of the kind has been spoken of here."

I profit, &c.
(Signed) JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 8 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to the President of St. Catherine's.

xcellent Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 26, 1854.

I HASTEN to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day's date, in reply to my communication of yesterday; and I shall take the earliest opportunity of transmitting it for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 9 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, August 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a letter I received from the President of this Province, in reply to mine of the 25th ultimo, copy of which has been already transmitted.

I have heard nothing further respecting the reported landing of slaves at Iguay. The Brazilian steamer "Pedro Segundo," I now hear, remains on this station till relieved.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 10 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, August 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that, up to this date, nothing further has transpired respecting the reported landing of Africans at Iguay.

With reference to the statement in my despatch of July 25th, respecting the Brazilian hiate "*Invencivel Catherinense*," I beg to inform you that, a few days ago, I was told by the Chief of Police and the Captain of the Port that news had been received here that she had been wrecked at Pernambuco when engaged in the prosecution of legal trade, thereby making the reports that have been afloat concerning her utterly false.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

No. 221.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that no slaves have been imported into this province during the quarter ended this day.

The landing of Africans on the southern frontier of this province, reported by Mr. Consul Vereker, has been emphatically denied by the various authorities.

I have the honour to lay before your Lordship the translations of a letter and inclosures which I received from the President of this province, on the subject of the disembarkation of Africans at Iguay.

Senhor Mariath in his letter states that the Commander of the "Recife" chased and searched a yacht in July, bound from Rio Grande to this place with country produce, which had been beating against contrary winds for twelve days in sight of the coast, and that this was, in his opinion, the origin of the denunciation given to the English Consul, and by him transmitted to the President of Rio Grande. Your Lordship will, however, perceive that it was impossible this could have been the case, as Mr. Consul Vereker reported a landing to have been effected at least three weeks previously to the yacht being searched by the "Recife."

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 221.

The President of St. Catherine's to Consul Callander.(Translation.)
Sir,*Presidency of the Province of St. Catherine's,*
September 28, 1854.

IN addition to the despatch which I addressed to you on the 24th of July last, I transmit to you the inclosed copies of despatches from the Commander of the steamer "Recife," and from the Chief of the squadron, Commander of the naval station, which prove the non-existence of the disembarkation of Africans denounced in June to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 221.

Commodore Mariath to the President of St. Catherine's.

(Translation.)

On board the steamer "Amazonas," at Rio de Janeiro,
Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, September 1, 1854.

THE information given by the commander of the steamer "Recife," in the inclosed despatch, conclusively proves the want of foundation of the information given by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, that a disembarkation of Africans was effected on the 11th or 12th of June of the present year, at the place which he calls Iguay. That information is corroborated by the accounts given by the same commander and by the commanders of the steamers "Pedro Segundo" and "Beberibe," who, from the middle of May, have cruized from St. Catherine's to the south, and who are unanimous in affirming that no disembarkation or attempt at it had been made in those latitudes.

According to what the commander of the "Recife" reports, a national yacht, which he chased and searched in the month of July, tacked (beat) for twelve days in sight of the coast, compelled by contrary winds; and this is, in my opinion, the origin of the information given to the English Consul, and by him transmitted to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICO MARIATH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 221.

The Commander of the "Recife" to Commodore Mariath.

(Translation.)

On board the steamer "Recife," Rio de Janeiro,
Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, August 30, 1854.

IN virtue of the order received from your Excellency, of yesterday's date, to the end that I would inform you, without delay, where I was on the 11th and 12th of last June, it behoves me to declare to your Excellency that on the above-mentioned days I was cruising on the coast south of St. Catherine's, in the points comprehended from that island to some miles to the south of Cape Santa Martha Grande; and I did not search any vessel, none having been fallen in with. Perhaps there may be a mistake in the month; because that in July, on those days, finding myself cruising upon the same points, I gave chase to and searched the national yacht "Cysné," belonging to Domingos Velloso de Oliveira, a merchant

in *St. Catherine's*, Thomas Xavier de Souza, master, coming from *Rio Grande* to *St. Catherine's*, with country produce, which, by reason of fresh winds from the north-east, was tacking (beating) more than twelve days in sight of the coast, and in consequence, finding himself short of water, and I not being able to supply him, having bad weather, I advised him that he should proceed to *Imbituba*, as he was to windward of that place, which is to the north of *Laguna*, and in my sight he repaired to that point. With respect to this yacht, I can assure your Excellency that it did not carry Africans; and I am persuaded that during the time that I have been employed in cruising on the said coast, no landing of Africans has taken place.

I searched also the brigantine "*Emiliana*" on the night of the 11th of July, in the latitude of *Tramandahy*, and which proceeded for *Rio Grande*; and on the following day I spoke several vessels which were standing off and on the bar of that port, waiting for water to enter; the said brigantine was also there.

As for the steamer "*Pedro Segundo*," she was at anchor in the Port of *St. Catherine's*.

On the 4th current, when I anchored, I did not write officially to your Excellency, not having more to say beyond what I mentioned in the observations of the report of the ship, as well as in the despatch of the 23rd of July, which I transmitted before to your Excellency from *St. Catherine's*, by the steamer "*Princeza Leopoldina*."

Annexed I have the honour to return to your Excellency the despatch of the 25th current, and that of the 8th, all from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which accompanied the above-mentioned order of your Excellency.

God preserve, &c.

For Delfim Carlos de Carvalho,
(Signed) JOSE DA CUNHA MOREIRA.

No. 222.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, December 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, to the best of my knowledge, no slaves have been imported direct from Africa into this province during the quarter ended this day.

Slaves continue to be sent coastwise, principally to *Rio de Janeiro*.

The number dispatched during the past year, according to the police returns, amounts to 114. A very few have been sent from other parts of the province.

The prices of slaves for the same period have been from 800\$000 (93*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*), to 1,000\$000 (116*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*), and upwards, according to their capabilities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

FRANCE.

No. 223.

Lord Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Paris, April 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying copy of a note which I have received from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, thanking me for having communicated to him the returns of the captures made by Her Majesty's squadron employed on the West Coast of Africa, in the suppression of the Slave Trade, during the years 1852 and 1853 respectively.

These returns had been forwarded to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd ultimo,* for communication to the French Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) COWLEY.

Inclosure in No. 223.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to Lord Cowley.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Paris, le 5 Avril, 1854.

J'AI reçu, avec la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 29 du mois dernier, le tableau de prises faites pendant les années 1852 et 1853, par les navires de Sa Majesté Britannique employés à la repression de la Traite des Noirs sur la côte occidentale d'Afrique, et je m'empresse de la remercie de cet envoi.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) DROUYN DE LHUYS.

No. 224.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 12.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-Gate House, 11 Avril, 1854.

VOTRE Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 7 Janvier dernier, que les Lords de la Trésorerie, chargés de statuer sur la réclamation en indemnité du propriétaire du navire Français "*l'Eliza*," n'avaient pas trouvé suffisants les documents produits jusqu'ici pour établir tant le chiffre exact du tonnage de ce navire, que la durée de sa détention par les croiseurs de Sa Majesté Britannique, et votre Excellence me demandait de lui fournir, sur ces deux points, des données précises, accompagnées de pièces justificatives.

J'ai l'honneur de transmettre ci-joint à votre Excellence deux actes notariés contenant les copies certifiées de toutes les pièces de bord rédigées à l'époque même de la capture de "*l'Eliza*" et du naufrage qui l'a suivi. Ces pièces établissent que l'arrestation de "*l'Eliza*" par le "*Volcano*" a eu lieu le 17 Mai, et que le Capitaine Periaud, commandant la Station Française des côtes occidentales d'Afrique, est arrivé à Sierra Leone, pour cette affaire, le 30 Juin

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 234.

suivant. Or, bien que l'illégalité de la capture eût effectivement été reconnue dès le 23 par le Lieutenant Saumany, ce ne fut pourtant qu'à l'arrivée du Capitaine Periaud que le navire fut rendu à son capitaine. La durée réelle de sa détention a donc été de quarante-cinq jours, et c'est, je crois, sur cette base qu'il conviendrait de calculer l'indemnité qu'il s'agit de régler aujourd'hui.

Pour ce qui concerne le chiffre du tonnage, l'acte de francisation du navire le porte en effet à cinquante-quatre tonneaux. Mais les Lords de la Trésorerie voudront bien remarquer les dimensions assignées au navire par cet acte lui-même que M. Baudin a eu l'honneur de transmettre à votre Excellence le 30 Novembre dernier, et la valeur de 25,000 francs qui est reconnue à "*l'Eliza*" par les polices d'assurances dont je joins ici les trois copies notariées. Ces divers chiffres paraissent tout-à-fait de nature à faire penser que le tonnage réel était en effet supérieur au tonnage légal, qui, d'après la loi sur la francisation qui régit notre commerce maritime, ne pourrait pas figurer officiellement pour plus de soixante tonneaux.

Il me reste à souhaiter, my Lord, que les Lords de la Trésorerie, dans l'examen des faits qui précèdent, et des diverses pièces que je joins à cette lettre, veuillent bien prendre en considération le naufrage de "*l'Eliza*" détournée de sa route par suite de l'erreur du croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique. Je ne prétends assurément pas faire de ce fâcheux événement un chef formel de réclamation, mais le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique est trop équitable pour n'en pas tenir un compte libéral dans la fixation de l'indemnité qu'il accordera au propriétaire de ce navire, qui, sans son arrestation, ne se fût pas trouvé dans les parages où il s'est perdu.

Agréé, &c.

(Signé)

A. WALEWSKI.

Inclosure in No. 224.

Substance of three Policies of Insurance inclosed in Count Walewski's letter of April 11, 1854.

POLICY dated May 13th, 1851, is an Insurance of Merchandize shipped on board the "*Eliza*" to the value of 70,000 florins.

Policy dated June 17th, 1851, is an Insurance of the Hull and Appurtenances of the "*Eliza*," to the value of 11,813 florins.

Policy dated July 9th 1851, is an Insurance on the freight of the ship, which is estimated by consent at 7,080 florins.

No. 225.

M. Baudin to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 12.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 11 Août, 1854.

PAR une lettre en date du 7 Janvier, 1854, votre Excellence a demandé à M. le Comte Walewski de lui fournir certains documents destinés à guider les Lords de la Trésorerie dans l'appréciation qu'ils ont à faire du chiffre de l'indemnité à laquelle peut avoir droit le navire Français "*l'Eliza*" par suite de son arrestation à la côte d'Afrique. L'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Impériale a eu l'honneur de transmettre ces pièces à votre Excellence sous la date du 11 Avril dernier et je prends la liberté de vous demander de vouloir bien me faire connaître si les Lords de la Trésorerie ont rendu leur décision.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé)

CH. BAUDIN.

No. 226.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. Baudin.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 29, 1854.

WITH reference to your note of the 11th instant, and to the previous correspondence which has taken place between this office and the French Embassy on the subject of the indemnity to be paid to the owner of the French vessel "*Eliza*," for the loss sustained by him from the improper detention of his vessel on suspicion of being concerned in the Slave Trade by Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*," in May 1851, I have now the honour to communicate to you the decision to which, after a full consideration of the facts of the case, Her Majesty's Government have come upon the subject.

The total amount claimed on behalf of the owner of the "*Eliza*" is 441*l.*

The first item of this charge is for demurrage (amounting to 285*l.*), calculated at the rate of 5*l.* per day for fifty-seven days.

Her Majesty's Government cannot allow this charge to its full extent, as, in the first place, the real time of the detention of the "*Eliza*" was only forty-five days, namely, from the 17th May to the 30th June, 1851; and in the second place, the charge of 5*l.* a day for a vessel of only fifty-four tons burden is very unreasonable, as it is stipulated by the several Treaties between this country and foreign Powers that 5*l.* per day is the sum to be allowed for demurrage for vessels of from 100 to 120 tons burden.

It is therefore proposed that the charge for demurrage should be calculated at the rate of 30*s.* per ton per month on fifty-four tons, which is at the same rate as is now paid to vessels in Her Majesty's Transport Service, and which would amount to 121*l.* 10*s.*

The second item amounts to 100*l.*, being for various alleged losses and expenses occasioned by the detention of the "*Eliza*," including the premium of an insurance and commission thereupon made upon that vessel and her cargo for a voyage which her owner intended her to make after the completion of the one in which she was lost.

This claim is quite inadmissible, both because sums paid for insurance do not generally come within the description of costs and damages occasioned by the detention of a vessel, and because the insurance in question had nothing to do with the voyage in which the "*Eliza*" was seized.

The next is a charge of 15*l.* for premium on an insurance said to have been effected on the "*Eliza*" for her voyage from the Bissao Channel, the place of her detention, to Sierra Leone.

Now as the owner of this vessel could only have known of her detention upon her arrival at Sierra Leone, it is difficult to understand how this insurance could have been effected. This charge cannot therefore be allowed.

The fourth charge is for 7*l.* due to the Master of the "*Eliza*" for piloting his vessel at the request of the mate of Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*."

This is equally inadmissible, as in all cases where demurrage is to be allowed to an owner, he is bound to pay out of that sum the wages of the master and crew of his vessel.

Fifthly, the owner claims 34*l.* for the loss of a voyage by the detention of the "*Eliza*," for Consular expenses at Sierra Leone, and for personal annoyance from having his name connected with Slave Trade proceedings.

The only part of this charge which is admissible is that for Consular expenses, of which, however, no separate account is rendered, but for which Her Majesty's Government will allow 17*l.*

There appears to be also a bill of costs of a Mr. Dougan on behalf of the owner amounting to 36*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* which does not form an item of the charges put forward in the memorandum of the French Consular Agent at Sierra Leone, inclosed in Count Walewski's note to Lord Palmerston, of the 10th of September, 1851, but which, if it has not been paid by the seizer, Her Majesty's Government will think it right to refund to the owner of the "*Eliza*."

The amount, therefore, which Her Majesty's Government are prepared to order to be paid to the owner of the "*Eliza*" as compensation for her improper detention by Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*," in May 1851, is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For demurrage	121	10	0
„ Consular expenses	17	0	0
„ Mr. Dougan's Bill	36	9	7
	£174	19	7

And I have to request that you will communicate to your Government the decision to which Her Majesty's Government have come upon this matter, and which they trust the French Government will find to be a just and equitable arrangement.

I beg to add, that upon receiving your acquiescence in the terms proposed, I shall be prepared to order the payment to you of the sum thus awarded to the owner of the "*Eliza*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 227.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch from Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, reporting his communications with the Porte respecting the trade in Georgian and Circassian slaves, and a copy of an instruction which I have addressed to his Excellency in reply.*

I have to instruct your Excellency to express to M. Drouyn de Lhuys the hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of France will join with them in insisting that the Slave Trade should be put down, which, with all its odious consequences, brings disgrace upon the allies whose fleets and armies are now aiding the country in which this system not only exists, but is actually aggravated by their successes against Russia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 228.

Lord Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 2, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo I have the honour to state that M. Drouyn de Lhuys will be happy to assist your Lordship in insisting with the Porte that the Slave Trade shall be put down within the Sultan's dominions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 229.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 23.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 21 Octobre, 1854.

VOTRE Excellence a fait connaître à M. Baudin, le 29 Août dernier, la décision des Lords de la Trésorerie sur la réclamation en indemnité du propriétaire du navire Français "*l'Eliza*," arrêté sur la côte d'Afrique par le croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique "*Volcano*."

J'ai l'honneur d'annoncer à votre Excellence que les propriétaires de "*l'Eliza*" acceptent le chiffre de l'indemnité fixé à 174*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* Mais que, comme cette somme d'après leurs calculs ne répond pas à l'importance des dommages, ils osent espérer que la Cour des Lords de la Trésorerie leur en accordera les intérêts depuis le 1 Juillet, 1851, jour de la relaxation de "*l'Eliza*," jusqu'au 29 Août, 1854. L'intérêt constant que mon Gouvernement a pris à cette réclamation, comme les efforts empressés que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a faits de son côté pour terminer cette affaire, me font bien augurer du succès de cette dernière demande des propriétaires de "*l'Eliza*," et je n'hésite pas à vous la transmettre, M. le Comte, en vous priant d'agréer, &c.

(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 230.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Excellency of the 27th ultimo, I transmit herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch * which I have received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte, inclosing translations of two Imperial firmans which have been addressed to the Pasha in command of the Ottoman army at Batoum, prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves in Circassia and Georgia.

Your Excellency will communicate copies of these documents to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, if he should not have received them already, and you will take this opportunity to thank his Excellency for the readiness with which he undertook to assist Her Majesty's Government in endeavouring to prevail upon the Porte to put down this Traffic.

I inclose also for communication to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, a copy of a despatch which I have addressed† to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, instructing his Excellency to request that the Ottoman Government will empower Admiral Dundas to concert with the Ottoman Governors of Batoum and Trebizond, the adoption of measures in order to prevent the Sultan's prohibition of the Circassian and Georgian Slave Trade from being evaded by ships under the Ottoman flag. Your Excellency will express to M. Drouyn de Lhuys the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of France will instruct the French Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople to make an application to the Porte with regard to the cooperation of Admiral Hamelin, similar to that which I have directed Lord Stratford to make.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 231.

Lord Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 29, 1854.

I HAVE read your Lordship's despatch of the 24th instant to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and his Excellency will send instructions to the French Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, in the sense desired by your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 232.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Walewski.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have referred to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, your letter of the 21st ultimo respecting the amount of compensation to be paid to the owner of the French vessel "*Eliza*," for her detention in 1851, by Lieutenant Reeve, of Her Majesty's steamer "*Volcano*," and I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that their Lordships have admitted the representation made by your Excellency on behalf of the owner of the "*Eliza*," claiming interest for the period between the 1st of July, 1851, and the 29th of August, 1854, upon the compensation which Her Majesty's Government have offered to pay to the owner of that vessel.

I have, however, to refer your Excellency to one item in the estimate made by the Lords of the Treasury of the French owner's claim, which estimate was communicated to the French Embassy in the concluding portion of my note to M. Baudin, of the 29th of August. That item is the bill of costs of a Mr. Dougan on behalf of the owner of the "*Eliza*," amounting to 36*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

Your Excellency will observe that it was assumed by the Lords of the Treasury that the owner might have been still liable for the payment of this charge; but I have to explain that their Lordships have since ascertained, on application to Lieutenant Reeve's agents in London, that Mr. Dougan's bill was paid by Mr. Reeve's agent at Sierra Leone, on the 25th of August, 1851, and the Lords of the Treasury have therefore deducted this sum of 36*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* from the amount of compensation due to the French owner.

The amount will accordingly now stand as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Demurrage	121	10	0
Consular expenses	17	0	0
	138	10	0
Interest	20	18	7
	£159	8	7

And I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Lords of the Treasury will be prepared to direct Her Majesty's Paymaster-General to pay the above mentioned sum of 159*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* to such person as your Excellency may appoint to receive it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 233.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 29.)

M le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 28 Novembre, 1854.

J'AI porté à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale, qui l'a communiquée aux intéressés, la décision des Lords de la Trésorerie dont votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'informer par sa lettre du 15 de ce mois, dans l'affaire du navire Français "*l'Eliza*."

Les propriétaires de ce navire manquent en ce moment de données positives sur le paiement des frais dûs à M. Dougan; ils n'élèvent donc pas de difficulté sur la réduction prononcée à cet égard, convaincus que s'il venait à être prouvé plus tard que ces frais sont restés à leur charge, une simple production de pièces de leur part suffirait pour faire reconnaître leur droit. Ils acceptent en conséquence le règlement d'indemnité arrêté par la Trésorerie dans les termes que

votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'indiquer dans sa lettre du 15, et je suis prêt à recevoir, en leur nom, et au nom de mon Gouvernement, la somme de 159*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, montant de l'indemnité, si vous voulez bien, M. le Comte, me la faire tenir, ou m'indiquer où elle doit être touchée.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 234.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Walewski.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, December 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 28th of November, stating that the owners of the French vessel "*Eliza*" are ready to accept the sum of 159*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* as compensation on the part of Her Majesty's Government for the detention of that vessel by Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*" in May 1851.

I inclose herewith an order payable to bearer for the sum in question, and I have to request that your Excellency will have the goodness to favour me with an acknowledgment of its receipt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 235.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 4 Décembre, 1854.

J'AI eu l'honneur de faire connaître à votre Excellence, le 28 Février, 1853, en lui en communiquant le texte, l'arrêt rendu par la Cour d'Appel de Bordeaux, le 24 Mai précédant, dans l'affaire du navire Français le "*Marabout*," arrêté sous prévention de Traite, en 1841, par le croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique la "*Rose*." Cet arrêt, écartant, en ce qui concernait le fait même de la capture du navire, la demande d'indemnité formée par les propriétaires du navire contre le Capitaine Christie, les déclarait recevables quant à leur réclamation en dommages-intérêts pour la détention indûment prolongée de leur équipage sur des navires de guerre Anglais, ordonnait la fixation du chiffre de ces dommages, et condamnait le Capitaine Christie aux frais de première instance et d'appel. J'exprimais en même temps à votre Excellence l'opinion où j'étais que les intéressés seraient disposés à transiger sur le chiffre des dommages intérêts, afin d'éviter les délais que ne manquerait pas d'entraîner leur règlement par la voie judiciaire. A la demande de votre Excellence, j'ai eu l'honneur de lui faire connaître, le 24 Juin suivant, le chiffre des prétentions des propriétaires du "*Marabout*," s'élevant à 212,914 francs. Le 24 Novembre, vous avez bien voulu m'informer du rejet absolu de ces prétentions par les Lords de la Trésorerie, ou, du moins, de la disposition où ils étaient de ne transiger que sur des bases qui ont paru inacceptables aux réclamants. Ceux-ci ont, dès lors, laissé l'affaire suivre le cours judiciaire que lui avait tracé l'arrêt du 24 Mai, 1852, et je viens d'être chargé d'avoir l'honneur d'informer votre Excellence du nouvel arrêt rendu par la Cour Impériale de Bordeaux, en ce qui touche cette fois le chiffre des dommages-intérêts résultant de la détention indûment prolongée de l'équipage du "*Marabout*." Cet arrêt, en date du 12 Juillet dernier, condamne M. le Capitaine Christie à payer aux intéressés une somme de 93,401 francs 88 centimes, avec intérêts à 6 pour cent depuis le 14 Décembre, 1841, date de l'exploit introductif d'instance, jusqu'au jour du paiement. Le Capitaine Christie a, de plus, été condamné aux dépens de l'instance, s'élevant à 5,247 francs 61 centimes, dont 4,269 francs 56 centimes au profit des liquidateurs L. Lépertière, et 377 francs 45 centimes au profit des héritiers Le Ray. Cette

somme fixée pour les dépens, est indépendante de celle qui avait été réglée pour les frais du premier jugement, et dont votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser le montant avec sa lettre du 12 Janvier dernier.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

P.S.—Je joins ici neuf pièces judiciaires que votre Excellence jugera sans doute à propos de communiquer aux Lords de la Trésorerie, savoir :

1. L'arrêt de la Cour Impériale de Bordeaux du 24 Mai, 1852.

2. L'arrêt de la même Cour du 12 Juillet, 1854.

3. L'acte de signification de ce dernier arrêt aux avoués.

4. L'acte de signification du même arrêt aux parties.

5, 6, et 7. L'exécutoire des frais de l'instance au profit des liquidateurs Lépertière contre le Capitaine Christie ; les actes de signification de cet exécutoire à l'avoué et à la partie.

8 et 9. L'exécutoire des mêmes frais au profit des héritiers Le Ray ; sa signification à l'avoué.

No. 236.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 7.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 5 Décembre, 1854.

J'AI reçu, avec la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire en date du 1 de ce mois, le mandat de 159*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* qui y était joint, et qui est le montant de l'indemnité accordée par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique aux propriétaires du navire Français "*l'Eliza*," pour son arrestation par le croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique le "*Volcano*," en Mai 1851.

Je n'ai pas manqué de transmettre cette somme à mon Gouvernement, et en en accusant réception à votre Excellence je la prie d'agréer, &c.

(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 237.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Walewski.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, December 8, 1854

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which your Excellency addressed to me on the 4th instant, respecting the damages awarded by the Imperial Court of Bordeaux to the parties interested in the French vessel, "*Marabout*."

I have referred your Excellency's letter with its inclosures to the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, and as soon as I shall have received a reply from their Lordships, I shall have the honour of addressing your Excellency again upon the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

HANSE TOWNS.

No. 238.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 22.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, May 18, 1854.

A BRAZILIAN vessel, the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," I believe armed, has entered the port of Bremen, which it is intended to fit out there for the Slave Trade. She is a very fast sailing vessel, and has accommodation on board her for 600 persons.

The Brazilian Consul-General here informs me that he has been over to Bremen to ascertain the truth of the reports made to him about this vessel, and he fully confirms to me the above statement. He considered it his duty to take from the vessel all flags she had on board, except one of the Brazils, and to place on board persons to watch her; but as he found that the captain had bribed them, he had applied to the Bremen Government, who promised him that they would watch the movements of the vessel.

I have also directed Her Majesty's Vice-Consul to ascertain all the particulars about this vessel, and let me know as to her movements.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. LLÓYD HODGES.

No. 239.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 26, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant, reporting that a Brazilian vessel called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" had arrived at Bremen, for the purpose of being there fitted out for the Slave Trade.

And I have to desire that you will cause a strict watch to be kept on the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," and that you will immediately report to me any information as to her movements which you may obtain.

No. 240.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th instant, respecting the movements of the suspected slaver "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which vessel you had reported to have arrived at Bremen, I have further to desire that if you should have reason to suppose that the authorities of Bremen are disposed in any way to protect or assist the equipment of the vessel in question for the Slave Trade, you will protest strongly against such connivance, and you will remind the Government of Bremen of the engagements which they contracted towards Great Britain and France by the Treaty of the 9th of June, 1837, in which they undertook to cooperate with those Governments towards the complete suppression of the Slave Trade.

No. 241.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 2.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, May 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th instant, and in obedience to your Lordship's instructions I shall cause a strict watch to be kept on the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," now lying at Bremerhaven, and report to your Lordship all I may learn as to her movements.

I have obtained from the Brazilian Consul-General the inclosed statement respecting this vessel, which will show what steps have been taken by him to watch her, and from which it will appear that she is now for sale, but I understand that her real Master, Tomasini, is not anxious to find a purchaser for her.

The consignees of the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" are, Messrs. Lange and Grave, at Bremen, and the Bremen authorities have assured the Consul-General for the Brazils, that great vigilance shall be used in regard to her whilst in their port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

 Inclosure in No. 241.
Memorandum.

PAR office du 18 Février, et par bateau-à-vapeur, le Président de Bahia a annoncé au Consul-Général du Brésil dans les villes Anséatiques, que le navire Brésilien "*Don Pedro Segundo*" était parti du Port de Bahia le 16, avec chargement de sucre, sel et tabac, se dirigeant à Bremen. Et comme ce navire appartenait à un des plus entreprenants négriers, Thomas da Costa Ramos, dit "le Maneto," qui s'était sauvé du Brésil, où il était poursuivi, et résidait à Lisbonne, il fallait le surveiller, parcequ'il ne serait pas impossible qu'il voulût s'armer à Bremen pour aller faire la Traite.

Au même temps, M. Limpo d'Abreo, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères à Rio de Janeiro, ordonnait au même Consul-Général d'exercer la plus grande surveillance sur le dit navire "*Don Pedro Segundo*," car à tout prix il fallait empêcher l'infame Trafique de Noirs. Ce navire dès sa construction était surveillé par les autorités Brésiliennes, et par les Agents du Gouvernement Impérial à l'étranger.

Aussitôt que le Consul-Général a reçu un avis, il a ordonné au Vice-Consul à Bremen d'exercer la plus active et sévère surveillance sur le navire en question dès qu'il arriverait.

Le 1 Avril le navire est arrivé au Port de Bremen (Bremerhafen), et avant d'avoir jetté l'ancre, un agent de confiance le surveillait de la manière la plus habile.

Le Consul-Général, prévenu tous les jours de ce qui se passait, est allé lui-même à Bremerhafen le 28 Avril, jour que lui était annoncé comme celui où devait finir le déchargement du navire, et accompagné d'un homme spécial il a procédé à une rigoureuse visite, et interrogé le capitaine, le pilote, et les gens de l'équipage, qui tous ont nié vouloir faire la Traite.

Le pilote (Tomassini) qui est le caissier du navire, n'a pas nié que le navire était construit exprès pour faire la Traite, et que partout où il se présentait on l'appelait négrier. Ce Tomassini avait été lui-même négrier, ce que n'inspirait pas confiance dans ses protestations de ne plus vouloir d'un tel commerce. Un autre motif de défiance c'était que le navire ne voulait accepter aucun des avantageux affrètements qu'on lui offrait, Tomassini répondant qu'il attendait des ordres de son propriétaire.

Par toutes ces raisons le Consul-Général a redoublé sa surveillance, et pour plus de sécurité il s'est adressé au Sénateur Smidt, qui, en absence du Bourguemaitre, présidait la Commission chargée du Département des Affaires Etrangères pour faire surveiller le navire par la police de Bremerhafen.

Le Sénateur Smidt comprenant la défaveur qui résulterait pour le com-

merce de Bremen si de son port il partait un navire préparé pour faire la Traite, a promis au Consul-Général de faire rigoureusement surveiller le navire, son capitaine, son pilote, et son équipage, et en effet cela se fait avec beaucoup d'activité.

Soit parceque le navire devient suspect partout où il se présente, soit parceque la surveillance qu'à Bremerhafen on exerce sur lui, ne lui permet pas de se préparer pour l'affreux commerce de la Traite, Tomassini a sollicité de son propriétaire l'ordre pour le vendre, et dans ce moment il est en vente.

No. 242.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 3.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Brazilian Consul-General for Hamburg and the other Hanse Towns has just returned from Bremen, whither he had gone respecting the sale of the Brazilian vessel "*Don Pedro Segundo*," and that on Tuesday last, the 27th instant, she was sold in his presence to M. Jacob Junge, a merchant and citizen of Bremen.

There is, therefore, every probability that this vessel will now be employed solely in lawful commerce, the only further steps required being that she should be placed in due form under the Bremen flag, until which is done, however, Tomasini, the master, stated that the purchase would not be completed.

Immediately after the sale, Tomasini dismissed the whole of his crew and sent them on shore; but by a telegraphic despatch received this morning by the Brazilian Consul-General, he is informed that the Bremen authorities had ordered the crew to go on board again; on what grounds he does not know.

I am further informed by the Brazilian Consul-General that he has ascertained beyond doubt that the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" was sent to Bremen expressly that she should be fitted out for the Slave Trade; and that under those circumstances he will in no case allow her to leave Bremen under the Brazilian flag.

I have directed Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen to continue to exercise the greatest vigilance in looking after the vessel, and I shall immediately acquaint your Lordship of anything further that may occur respecting her deserving of notice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 243.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the Brazilian vessel the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," I have to state to you that I have received a despatch upon the subject from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, in which he states that "the vessel in question is notorious in the annals of Brazilian slave-trading;" and I have to desire that you will inform me what has become of the "*Don Pedro Segundo*."

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 244.

11

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, October 9, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 4th instant, desiring to know what had become of the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," I beg to refer to the inclosed copy of the answer which I have received from

Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen to my inquiries in consequence of such despatch, and by which it appears that she is still lying, as I had every reason to believe, in the port of Bremerhaven.

This vessel was purchased by a Bremen merchant of the name of Jung, for 10,000 rix dollars, on condition that Bremen papers and flag could be obtained for her.

The Senate of Bremen had persisted in refusing to grant the papers and flag of that State to the "*Don Pedro Segundo*;" but, as appears from the inclosure, in consequence of her having been considerably altered, it is probable that they will grant her a Bremen nationality, and if so I shall duly report the same.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

Inclosure in No. 244.

Vice-Consul Pearkes to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Bremen, October 7, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of yesterday's date, and in compliance therewith, I beg leave to inform you that the vessel "*Don Pedro Segundo*," being now the property of a Bremen merchant, no objection will be made in granting her Bremen papers, on delivery to the Senate of the ship-builder's certificate confirming the completion of the alterations which have been deemed requisite, to remove any doubt that might or could be entertained of the vessel being intended again for the Slave Trade.

The "*Don Pedro Segundo*" was formerly a brig, but has now received a third mast, and thereby is altered to a barque, the yards are shortened, the sails altered, &c., &c. I understand her name in future is to be "*Wolda*," and in consequence of the alterations which have been made, will now require only a complement of 16 to 18 men—the former crew was 23. The vessel lies at present in the dock at Bremerhaven, and will probably proceed to an English port to load coals for a trans-Atlantic one, as the great reduction in the passage money for emigrants to the United States offers at present little or no inducement to send a vessel there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. PEARKES.

No. 245.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 23.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, October 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, in regard to the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," that Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen has communicated to me under date of the 17th instant, that the documents required having been handed to the Senate of that city, the necessary papers granting nationality have been given to the vessel formerly called "*Don Pedro Segundo*," and she is now, therefore, entitled to the rights of the Bremen flag. The vessel's name is now "*Wolda*."

Mr. Pearkes will inform me immediately of the above mentioned vessel's departure from the Weser, with her destination, so far as he can learn the same, it being as yet undecided whether she is to proceed to a British port, or to one in Venezuela; and I shall take care to communicate those particulars to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 246.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

(No. 15.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 27, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, reporting that a Portuguese brig called the "*Experiencia*," suspected of being intended for the Slave Trade, had sailed for Hamburgh on the 25th of August last; and I have to instruct you to take measures to have the proceedings of this vessel watched on her arrival at Hamburgh.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 247.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 4.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 1, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship of the 18th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit copy of a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen, stating that the vessel formerly called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," but now the "*Wolda*," had sailed for a port in Colombia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

Inclosure in No. 247.

Vice-Consul Pearkes to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Bremen, October 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that the Bremen barque "*Wolda*," Shneye, master, (formerly "*Don Pedro Segundo*,") sailed this morning at about 8 o'clock with a southerly wind from Bremerhaven for a port in Colombia, either La Guayra or Puerto Cabello, and as I am informed in ballast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. PEARKES.

No. 248.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 4.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo, with inclosure from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro; and I beg to inform your Lordship that the "*Experiencia*," Portuguese brig, has not yet arrived here, but that, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I shall take measures so soon as she reaches this port to have her proceedings here watched, and shall duly inform you of the same.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 249.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 9.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 6, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Portuguese brig the "*Experiencia*," referred to in your despatch of the 27th ultimo, arrived in the port of Hamburg on Friday last, with a cargo of coffee consigned to merchants of this city. This vessel is now discharging her cargo, which will occupy her about a week; but I have, according to your Lordship's instructions, given directions to have her proceedings strictly watched, and I shall transmit all information that I may obtain worthy of attention to your Lordship without any delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 250.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 23.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 20, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 27th ultimo, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that the "*Experiencia*," having discharged her cargo of coffee, is now clearing out from this port with part of a cargo of tar, and partly in ballast for Lisbon.

From the various inquiries that I have made, I find that the "*Experiencia*" belongs to the Cod Fish Company at Lisbon, a very respectable commercial company; that she has only a crew of eleven men; and that there are no grounds for suspecting that she is now in any way connected with slave-trading, and this is also the opinion of my Brazilian colleague here, who has likewise been watching the proceedings of this vessel.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 251.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of November last,* reporting that the "*Wolda*" formerly the Brazilian slaver "*Don Pedro Segundo*," had sailed from Bremen for La Guayra or Puerto Cabello, I now transmit to you for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Venezuela, and its inclosure, reporting that the "*Wolda*" had arrived at Puerto Cabello, and that there was no reason to doubt that she was engaged in lawful trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

* No. 247.

† No. 636.

MEXICO.

No. 252.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

Mexico, March 4, 1854.

IN accordance with your Lordship's directions, contained in your despatch of the 30th of last December, I addressed the Minister for Foreign Affairs a note, the copy of which I have the honour to inclose, as well as of his Excellency's answer, by which your Lordship will see that no proposals whatever have been made by the Spanish Government, of the nature alluded to in your Lordship's despatch, and that the Mexican Government are determined to observe most faithfully all the conditions of their Slave Trade Treaty with Great Britain.

In my despatch of the 2nd ultimo,* I had the honour to inclose the terms granted to Señor Vecino, Bavarian Consul at Havana, for taking Yucatan Indians to Cuba as free labourers, and I now forward to your Lordship copy of a despatch I have addressed to the British Vice-Consul at Laguna de Terminos, directing him to give me information of the slightest attempt at any infringement of the terms which were to be observed, I have also directed Mr. Consul Giffard, at Vera Cruz, to put himself into communication with persons residing at Merida and Campeachy, with the same object.

The Spanish Minister, in speaking to me on this subject, told me that he did not suppose the authorities in the Island of Cuba would permit the Mexican Consul to exercise this stipulated intervention, but which, however, I do not see could be prevented if the orders of this Government are carried out. On the other hand, the American Chargé d'Affaires, speaking to me on the same subject, said that he felt certain his Government would never allow such a system to be carried out.

I have &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 252.

*Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.**Mexico, February 4, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has instructions to state to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at the Court of Madrid, having brought before the Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the question of the unfortunate Yucatan Indians, who had been kidnapped by a person of the name of Anduze, and sent to the Island of Cuba as slaves. Mr. Otway was informed in writing by Señor Calderon de la Barca, that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty was about to come to an understanding with that of Mexico, respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba as colonists. The Undersigned is instructed to say, that until Her Majesty's Government are officially informed of the fact, they will hesitate to believe that the Mexican Government has entered into arrangements with the Spanish Government for the exportation of unfortunate Indians to Cuba, as it

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 252.

would be tantamount to aiding the Spanish Government to violate a solemn Treaty engagement with England. The Undersigned has had such experience of the feelings of all the different administrations of this country with respect to the iniquitous Traffic in Slaves, which all the Great Powers in Christendom are striving to put an end to, by every means in their power, and for which purpose Mexico has also entered into solemn Treaty arrangements with Great Britain, that he feels convinced his Excellency Señor Bonilla will enable him to state to Her Majesty's Government that no such arrangement as is stated by Señor Calderon de la Barca to have been proposed to Mexico, will be carried out by the present enlightened Government of this country, and that they will rather take every means in their power of preventing the slightest act being committed by the local authorities of Yucatan, by which the Indians of that peninsula might under any pretext be sent to the Island of Cuba, in such a manner as to place them in a situation even of forced labour, which would be, as far as they were concerned, virtually placing them in a state of slavery under a disguised shape.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 252.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, February 8, 1854.

THE Undersigned has had the honour to receive his Excellency the British Minister's note, in which it is stated that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at the Court of Spain, having addressed the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs upon the subject of the Yucatan Indians, who had been kidnapped by a man called Anduze, and sent to the Island of Cuba as slaves, Mr. Otway had received an answer from Señor Calderon de la Barca informing him that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty were on the point of drawing up an agreement with Mexico respecting the exportation of Yucatan Indians as colonists.

His Excellency Mr. Doyle also states in his above-mentioned note that until Her Majesty's Government are officially informed of the fact they will hesitate to believe that the Mexican Government has entered into arrangements with that of Spain, respecting the above-mentioned exportation, and requests that every means in their power may be employed to prevent the slightest act being committed by the local authorities of Yucatan, by which the Indians of that peninsula might be sent, under any pretext whatever, to the Island of Cuba.

The Undersigned has to assure his Excellency Mr. Doyle, that no proposals whatever have been made by the Spanish Government, as has been affirmed, and the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may be convinced that Mexico, faithful to the conduct she has observed on this subject, will take care that the Treaty upon Slavery shall be religiously complied with in all its details.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 252.

Mr. Doyle to Vice-Consul Shiels.

(Extract.)

Mexico, February 15, 1854.

AN arrangement has been lately made by this Government with M. Tito Vecino, Bavarian Consul in the Havana, by virtue of which he is authorised to enter into contracts with the Indians of Yucatan to go as free labourers to the Island of Cuba. I herewith inclose for your information a copy of the terms* upon which only those contracts are to be made, and have also to inform you that I have, in accordance with instructions from the Earl of Clarendon, protested against any measure which this Government might take, by which the Indians in question should be sent to the Island of Cuba against their will, thus tending to place them virtually in a state of slavery. His Excellency Señor Bonilla has informed me that he has sent special instructions to all the local

* See Class B, presented 1854, p. 344.

authorities to prevent any infraction of the terms upon which the contracts are to be made, to report to the Supreme Government any attempts of such a nature. A Colonel Jimenez, who belonged formerly to the staff of General Santa Anna, has been sent to Yucatan as agent for Señor Vecino, and I have to request you will do all in your power to watch his movements, should he make his appearance at the Isla del Carmen, or cause any Indians to be embarked from that port, and take such measures as you consider best for obtaining every information with respect to the carrying out the contracts in question.

No. 253.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Mexico, April 2, 1854.

AS far back as the month of last November, I addressed a note, copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 2nd of last December, to Señor Bonilla, in which I brought to the serious attention of this Government the conduct of Señor Vivo, who authorised certainly, although he did not sign, the issuing the false papers given to the "*Mariana*" to sail under Mexican colours. Señor Bonilla made me the most solemn promises that the case should be most strictly examined into, and if the charges were proved to be correct, that Señor Vivo should be treated as he deserved; but although such a length of time has been allowed to elapse, I could obtain no information of the result of the measures taken by Señor Bonilla; and as I had my reasons to suppose that the wish entertained was to allow the matter to drop, I considered it proper to address a note to his Excellency on this subject, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, because, were no notice taken of so scandalous a case, other Mexican Consuls might be tempted to follow Señor Vivo's example. That my suspicions were correct, I think your Lordship will perceive, by the answer I received from Señor Bonilla, a copy and translation of which is also inclosed, as well as of the answer I considered it my duty to make to that communication; and I have the honour to request your Lordship will furnish me with such instructions as you may consider necessary, in the event of my receiving no further communication on this matter from the Mexican Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 253.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, March 23, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive a note dated the 22nd of last November, from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, inclosing copy of the sentence of condemnation pronounced by the Judge of the District Court of Vera Cruz, in virtue of which the vessel called the "*Mariana*" was declared to be a legal prize, it having been proved that she had been employed in the Slave Trade. In that sentence, the Judge called the attention of the Supreme Government to what he stated to be a fraudulent act committed by the person then in charge of the Mexican Consulate in the Havana, in issuing false papers, compromising thereby the honour of the Mexican nation. The Judge supposed, that the person at that time in charge of the Consulate was Don Joaquin Soler; but the Undersigned, in a note which he had the honour to address to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla on the 24th of last November, when he brought before his Excel-

lency's attention the fact of Judge Sharkey, the American Consul at that time in the Havana, having demanded that an investigation should be made with respect to his name having been falsely made use of in this transaction. The Undersigned also laid before his Excellency the fact that, although the false papers in question were signed by Don Joaquin Soler on the 13th of last May, although Señor Vivo, the Consul, had reached that island on the 9th, and only made over the Consulate to Señor Carvallo on the 17th of the same month, when he started for Spain to place himself at the head of the Mexican Legation in that country, and M. Soler accompanied him as attached to that Legation. In a note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency Señor Bonilla on the 4th of last December, in accordance with the instructions he received from Her Majesty's Government, to express their acknowledgments to the Government of this country for its ready cooperation and the assistance it afforded in seizing and condemning the noted slaver in question, he was also instructed to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the measures which the Undersigned had informed them had been taken to examine into the conduct of both Señor Vivo as well as that of M. Soler, would be closely followed up, tending as their conduct had done to compromise the honour of Mexico; and such being the case, Her Majesty's Government felt assured that this matter would not be lightly dealt with. But as so many months have passed since this communication took place, and as both the persons in question still hold the same high public offices they before held, the Undersigned would feel obliged to his Excellency Señor Bonilla to communicate to him, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the result of the inquiries made on this distressing subject.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 253.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, March 30, 1854.

THE Undersigned has had the honour to receive his Excellency Mr. Doyle's note of the 23rd instant, relating to charges which had been brought against the persons in the Consulate of the Republic at the Havana, with reference to some documents about the "*Mariana*," which has since been declared a prize, on account of its having been employed in the Slave Trade.

In answer, the Undersigned has to state to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, that his Government have taken such measures as they have thought proper for the elucidation of the case alluded to by his Excellency, and for the discovery of the person implicated in it, with a view to ulterior proceedings.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 253.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, March 31, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to address a note to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla on the 23rd instant, in which he requested to be informed, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, of the result of the investigation made into the conduct of Señor Vivo, the present Mexican Minister in Madrid, and of Señor Soler, attached to the same Legation, both of whom belonged to the Mexican Consulate in the Havana, when false documents were issued in the month of May of last year, with the view of enabling the slave-vessel the "*Mariana*" to sail under Mexican colours, an act which Señor Oropeza, the District Judge of the State of Vera Cruz, in the sentence he gave, declared to be a fraudulent act, and compromising the

honour of the Mexican nation. In acknowledging the receipt of the answer to that note, which the Undersigned has had the honour to receive from his Excellency Don Manuel Díez de Bonilla of yesterday's date, he must express his regret that, considering the time which has passed since the act in question was committed, he is not enabled to forward information of a more satisfactory nature to Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 254.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Mexico, April 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copies of two despatches and their inclosures from Mr. Vice-Consul Shiels, mentioning the fact of a vessel found abandoned at sea having been taken into the Island of Cozumel, and which vessel is supposed to have been employed in the Slave Trade. Mr. Shiels states, that the Isla de Mugerres lying to the north of Yucatan, and within a very short distance of the Island of Cuba, has been allowed to become a fishing establishment, through a grant made by the Governor of that State to certain Spanish subjects, and he expresses his conviction that this grant has been made use of for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade with greater facility between the Isla de Mugerres and the Island of Cuba. Your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed note which I addressed to Señor Bonilla that I have called his attention to this point, expressing my conviction that the grant, if not properly made, will be rescinded, and that such also will be the case should it be proved that the suspicions entertained be correct. I have also forwarded copies of the despatches I received from Mr. Vice-Consul Shiels to Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Havana, stating to him also that I thought a visit made by any of Her Majesty's cruisers to the Isla de Mugerres might be the means of procuring much information on this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 254.

Vice-Consul Shiels to Consul Giffard.

Sir,

Laguna de Terminos, March 14, 1854.

IT having been reported here that a vessel supposed to be an African slaver has been lately fallen in with by some fishermen in the vicinity of the Island of Cozumel, in an abandoned condition, but with every appearance of having disembarked a cargo of slaves, I addressed a note on the 28th ultimo to the Governor of the territory (copy of which is inclosed), requesting him to investigate the matter, and received his answer dated 2nd instant, accompanying the declaration of the person who raised the report here (copy also inclosed). Although nothing has transpired from the steps taken, as regards a certainty of the vessel being a slaver, still I am inclined to believe that such is really the case, as it is so reported from sundry parts of the coast by persons trading in canoes who assure me that slave ships direct from Africa, with cargoes of slaves, are in the habit of calling off Isla Mugerres, where they have Spanish agents who assist them to land their cargoes in Cuba, by disembarking the slaves into Spanish coasting craft, ready in waiting for that purpose. On effecting this, they burn, bilge, or otherwise destroy the ship which originally brought the slaves from Africa and thereby elude the vigilance of her Majesty's cruisers off the Island of Cuba. On communicating this report to Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Mexico, please have the goodness to state also that permission was given by the state authorities of Yucatan in 1848, to certain Spanish subjects in Cuba

to occupy Isla Mugerres as a fishing establishment, as will be observed by the copy of the Decree which I also inclose. No doubt exists in my mind that this permission is made use of by the slave-merchants to land their negroes in Cuba, in the manner before stated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. B. SHIELS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 254.

Vice-Consul Shiels to the Governor of the Island of Carmen.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Laguna de Terminos, February 28, 1854.

HAVING learnt, by a lately arrived canoe called the "Lucia," coming from Rio Lagartos, that her master has said a brig abandoned at sea had been met with on the coast of the Island of Cozumel, which brig it is supposed has been dismantled, after having brought and discharged a ship load of slaves, which have afterwards been taken to the Island of Cuba, I have the honour to address you with the object of begging you will have the goodness to cause the truth of this statement to be investigated; and it will be my duty to apprise Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico of it, so that proper measures may be taken to prevent slave-vessels from disembarking their slaves within the waters of the Republic.

I flatter myself that you will take interest in ascertaining the truth of these statements, and that you will have the goodness to inform me of the result—thus cooperating in the suppression of the illegal Slave Trade which, it would appear, is carried on in the islands adjacent to the coast of Yucatan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. B. SHIELS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 254.

The Governor of the Island of Carmen to Vice-Consul Shiels.

(Translation.)

Government House, March 2, 1854.

I FORWARD to you the declaration of Ponciano Villa Nuera, master of the canoe "Lucia," respecting the vessel said to be abandoned off Cozumel, and to have been employed in the Slave Trade, which declaration was received by order of this Government, and in accordance with the wish expressed in your official note of the 28th ultimo.

(Signed) THOMAS MARIN.

In the Town of Carmen, on the 1st March, 1854, the Captain of the port, Don Juan Lara Bonifaz, had brought before him the citizen, Ponciano Villa Nueva, master of the canoe "Lucia," proceeding from Rio Lagartos, who before me, notary, was legally sworn to the truth, and having been questioned respecting what he knew of a vessel said to be anchored in Cozumel, he said as follows:—That on passing by Rio Lagartos the master José Osorio, inhabitant of the port of Felchae, had told them that the fishermen had seen at sea a dismantled vessel, and that having boarded her, they found nothing either dead or living in her, and had towed her into port. That, accordingly, the Magistrate of that port was going to institute inquiries, but as Osorio had returned to Felchae he knew nothing more of what had happened, and that this is all he knew of the matter.

This declaration was then read to him, and being asked whether he ratified it, or whether he wished anything to be added or omitted, he said that the declaration then read to him, might be signed and ratified, as containing the truth; that he had nothing to add or to suppress, and would sign it jointly with the authorities and me, notary.

(Signed)

JUAN LARA BONIFAZ.
PONCIANO VILLA NUEVA.
VICTOR REUDON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 254.

Decree of June 21, 1848, granting Permission to Fish on the Coasts of the Peninsula to Spanish Vessels.

MIGUEL BARBACHAM, Governor of the State of Yucatan, to its inhabitants:—Know ye that it being good for the country to encourage the fisheries, which have been hitherto neglected for want of enterprise, and some Cuban capitalists having offered to undertake them, and corresponding advantages being likely to accrue therefrom to the State; in the use of the powers conferred upon me by the decree of the 14th January of the present year, and after hearing the opinion of the Council of State, I have been pleased to decree as follows:—

Article I. Permission is granted to Spanish vessels to fish on the coasts of this peninsula and of the adjacent islands, on the north and east side of the coast, and they may establish on the coasts the buildings necessary for salting the fish.

Art. II. Spanish vessels that, with this sole object, arrive off our coasts, shall have all the assistance they may require, just as if they were national vessels, and they may buy whatever they may require, and sell or barter their fish.

Art. III. These concessions do not include the right of settling on the private properties of the proprietors on the coast.

Inclosure 5 in No. 254.

Vice-Consul Shiels to Consul Giffard.

Sir,

Laguna de Terminos, February 16, 1854.

WITH an inclosure from Mr. Doyle, I had the pleasure to receive on 13th instant your despatch of 20th February last, and pursuant to its contents I have written to Merida and Campeachy requesting my correspondents there to furnish me with any information to be procured respecting the shipment of Indians to Cuba.

It has been currently reported here that the cholera, so prevalent throughout the State last year, and which has committed such fearful ravages in the interior, was introduced into the country through an escort of troops sent from Valladolid with a body of Indians to be embarked at Ascension Bay on board of a Spanish vessel for Cuba, who slept on board the same, and on their return carried the disease into the interior. It appears these poor wretches were prisoners of war, smuggled out of the State, with the assistance of a military force, to be sold in the Cuba market; and that for some time past this has been an every day occurrence. From what I can learn, the kidnapped Indians are generally sent from the interior, where the Indian warfare is kept up, to a distant part of the coast where there are no civil authorities who dare interfere, and are shipped thence to Cuba in Spanish coasting craft, in the same manner as is practised with negro slaves disembarked from Guineamen in the vicinity of the islands adjacent to the Yucatan coast.

It is my opinion that this Trade can only be put a stop to by vessels of war of a light draught of water, which can approach as close to the shoals as the Spanish coasters can, and would soon put an end to the nefarious Traffic. I doubt if even one tenth of the Indians sent from Yucatan will ever be legally

shipped from a port of entry, so great are the facilities for shipping them from by-places on the coast, although the Spanish coasters, through agents at Manilla, can always be provided with regular papers as a cloak against detention or capture.

The contents of the present communication, although collected from report, and partly being my own opinions on the subject, may afford Mr. Doyle, for whose information it is written, some insight into the manner in which the Indians are conveyed to Cuba, and may assist him in providing means to effectually put a stop to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. B. SHIELS.

Inclosure 6 in No. 254.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, March 29, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of the only terms upon which Don Tito Vecino would be permitted to enter into contracts with the Indians in Yucatan for the purpose of sending them as free labourers to the Island of Cuba. As the Undersigned is aware of the philanthropic sentiments of the present Administration of this country, and of the personal determination of Señor Bonilla to put an end to slavery under whatever form it may present itself, he loses no time in laying before his Excellency the inclosed interesting information which he has received on this subject, by which his Excellency will see the manner in which the philanthropic views of the General Government are likely to be frustrated should the statements made to the Undersigned be founded on fact, and the Undersigned does not for a moment doubt that the strictest investigation will be made without loss of time into this matter, involving, as it does, the fate of so many unhappy human beings living under the protection of this Government. The Undersigned has received a despatch also from Mr. Shiels, British Vice-Consul at Laguna de Terminos, in which he states the fact of a vessel abandoned at sea, having been taken into the Island of Cozumel, and which there was every reason to believe had been employed in the Slave Trade. Mr. Shiels states, that the information he received was given him by persons trading in canoes along the coast, who assured him that slave-ships, direct from Africa, are in the habit of calling off the Isla de Mugerres, where, with the aid of Spanish agents, the slaves are transhipped into Spanish coasting craft ready in waiting for such a purpose; on effecting which, they burn, sink, or otherwise destroy, the ships which originally brought the slaves from Africa, and so elude the vigilance of the British cruisers off the Island of Cuba. Mr. Shiels also states, that in 1848, the State authorities of Yucatan issued the inclosed Decree, granting the right to certain Spanish subjects in Cuba to occupy the Isla de Mugerres as a fishing station; and he expresses his conviction that this permission has been made use of also by the slave-merchants to land their negroes in Cuba in the manner before stated. The Undersigned does not understand how such a grant could have been made by the State authorities unless under the sanction of the Supreme Government, in whose province it clearly lies to grant or refuse such authority, be the Government of the country federal or central in its character; but should such an authority have been granted, the Undersigned feels assured, placing the faith he does in the opinions on this subject which he knows are held by his Excellency Señor Bonilla, that his Excellency will allow no time to be lost in ascertaining the truth of the reports made to the Undersigned, and that he will withdraw the grant made to the Spanish subjects in question, if it has been illegally made, and that he will do so also if it be shown that it has already tended, or can in any way be made available for the continuance of the infamous Traffic in Slaves still carried on in the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 255.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo,* inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed on the 23rd of March to the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting to be informed what steps had been taken by the Mexican Government to inquire into the conduct of Señor Vivo, who was Mexican Consul at Havana in May 1853, when Mexican papers were granted to the slaver "*Mariana*," alias "*Lady Suffolk*."

And with reference to the unsatisfactory reply which you received to that note, I have to instruct you to renew your application to Señor Bonilla on this subject, in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

You will state that the long period of time which has so unaccountably been suffered to elapse since the transaction in question took place, cannot relieve his Excellency from the promise made by him, that a full and searching inquiry should be made into a case so flagrant in itself, and so pernicious as an example if suffered to remain without notice by the Mexican Government.

Should this application fail, you will take an opportunity to bring the whole matter before the President as one affecting the honour of Mexico; and you will request that his Highness will order the inquiry that Her Majesty's Government have in vain endeavoured to obtain from his Minister.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 256.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo,† inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed, on the 29th of March, to Señor Bonilla, in consequence of information which you had received from the British Vice-Consul at Laguna de Terminos, that a slaver had been found abandoned off the Island of Cozumel, and that the Spanish slave-dealers are in the habit of availing themselves of permission given to certain Spanish subjects by the Governor of Yucatan to use the Isla de Mujeres as a fishing establishment, in order to make use of that island as a slave-trading station.

And I have in reply to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 257.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Mexico, May 3, 1854.

BY the last packet I received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Havana, inclosing me a copy of the "*Ordenanza*" published by the present Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, laying down the terms upon which free labourers could only be admitted into the Island of Cuba, by which are annulled the stipulations made by this Government with Señor Vecino, referred to in my despatch of the 4th of March. I took an early opportunity of reading Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatch to his Excellency Señor Bonilla, and recommended that no time should be lost in making known to the Indians in Yucatan, through the local authorities, the fact that the contracts proposed by Señor Vecino could no longer be carried into

* No. 253.

† No. 254.

effect, and his Excellency has since assured me that orders have been sent to that effect; but he called to my attention a mistake evidently entertained by Mr. Crawford, namely, that the privilege granted to M. Vecino was an exclusive one, such not being the case, because any one is at liberty to contract Indians as free labourers on the same terms. An exclusive privilege had been demanded by a M. Linardi for a commercial house in the Havana, with an offer of giving 30,000 or 50,000 dollars for it; but this offer was refused by Señor Bonilla, on the ground that it might be made the means of carrying on the Slave Trade in a disguised form. The line this Government wishes to adopt, is to prevent by every means in its power any abuse of authority which would tend to place the Yucatan Indians in a state of slavery, as it cannot prevent their seeking their livelihood in the manner they consider to be most profitable to themselves. I have written on this subject to Mr. Consul-General Crawford.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 258.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Mexico, May 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, translations of a note and its inclosures which I have received from his Excellency Señor Bonilla, in answer to the one I addressed to his Excellency, and a copy of which was transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 2nd ultimo,* respecting the manner I was informed by Mr. Vice-Consul Shiels that the Indian prisoners were sent to the Island of Cuba, and the Isla de Mugerres made a deposit for slaves for the same island. I have also the honour to forward copies and translations of a communication I received from his Excellency Señor Bonilla, transmitting some correspondence which had taken place between the Mexican Minister in Washington and the American Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, respecting four boys born in the Peninsula of Yucatan, who are supposed to be kept in a state of slavery in New Orleans.

Your Lordship will perceive that Mr. Marcy alludes to the contract lately made by M. Vecino for importing free labourers into the Island of Cuba. Señor Bonilla has directed the same answer to be given to him as was given to me, and which I have already had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 258.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, April 7, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to receive his Excellency Mr. Doyle's note of the 29th ultimo, inclosing a document which shows in what manner the benevolent views of the Mexican Government may be frustrated with respect to the aborigines of Yucatan whom Don Tito Vecino had contracted to take to Cuba; and his Excellency acquaints the Undersigned with the intelligence he has received of a vessel abandoned at sea, that was picked up off the coast of Cozumel, with all the appearances of having been employed in the Slave Trade; and with reference to this his Excellency Mr. Doyle alludes to slave-ships coming from Africa, and arriving at the Island of Mugerres, where they transship the slaves which they bring to Spanish coasting-vessels, after which they burn or otherwise destroy the said ships, and escape the vigilance of the British cruisers off the Island of Cuba.

His Supreme Highness the President of the Republic has been informed of these particulars, and desires the Undersigned to assure his Excellency Mr. Doyle that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may be satisfied that, with reference to the above circumstances, no effort will be omitted by the Government of the Republic to comply with the spirit of the Treaty existing between Mexico and Great Britain, for the abolition of slavery. A proof of this is given in the orders issued by the Minister at War to the Commandant-General of Marine of the Northern Department, and which were given before the receipt of his Excellency's note, which the Undersigned is now answering, respecting the vessel alluded to as having been found abandoned at sea, near Cozumel, copy of which order is herewith inclosed to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, to whom the Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 258.

The Minister of War to Señor Bonilla.

(Translation.)

Department of War and Marine, 3rd Section,

Excellent Sir,

City of Bravos, April 2, 1854.

WITH this day's date I inform the Commandant-General of Marine of the Northern Department, Captain D. Luis Valle, as follows: "His Supreme Highness the President having been informed of your despatch No. 77, and of its inclosures, respecting a schooner found stranded on the Island of Cozumel off the Peninsula of Yucatan, and which, according to the account given by the Captain of the Port of Sisal, Don José de la Cuesta, 2nd Lieutenant in the Navy, appears to have been employed in the Slave Trade, his Highness orders me to direct you to send immediately to that spot one of the national men-of-war, with men from the arsenal, who will burn the said schooner, stripping her first of her copper, and of everything worth taking, which being collected with her goods now in possession of the neighbouring people, is to be taken to that port, and put under the care of the judge who is to investigate the case, in consequence of the schooner having been declared a slaver.

"The Commandant of the Marine Department will give the necessary instructions to the officer in command of the ship destined for this service; and when he returns you will communicate to the Judge the particulars which will have been learnt about the case, so that with the promptness required by the Treaty celebrated between Mexico and Great Britain on the 24th of February of 1841, and subsequently amplified, sentence may be awarded according to the stipulations of that agreement, and of the Law of the 8th of August, 1851.

"You will communicate this order to the Captain of the Port of Sisal; and I return the papers in original which he inclosed to me, so that they may serve in court."

(Signed) BLANCO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 258.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, April 12, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, copy of a communication addressed by the Minister from this country to the Secretary of State of the United States, and also of his answer, by which his Excellency Mr. Doyle will learn what has happened to 6 Yucatan boys in the neighbourhood of Campeachy, how they were met with in the United States, what steps had been taken in the case, and how it at present stands, as well as the hopes

entertained by the Undersigned that the said youths will be sent back to their own country.

In communicating to his Excellency copy of the abovementioned correspondence, for the information of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, which has shown such anxiety for the suppression of the Slave Trade, the Undersigned avails himself, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 258.

General Almonte to Mr. Marcy.

(Translation.)

Washington, March 7, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Mexican Republic, has the honour to transmit to the Honourable William L. Marcy, Secretary of State of the United States of America, copy of a letter from the Honourable Daniel Mace, Member of Congress for the State of Indiana, respecting an occurrence which the Undersigned has no doubt will profoundly affect the benevolent feeling of the Honourable Mr. Marcy.

Six Mexican children were stolen in Campeachy by French pirates, who kept them in servitude for four years; they then sold them to an American merchant-vessel, where they remained two years, and were finally sold in the market of New Orleans. This occurrence, if proved true, is so monstrous, so iniquitous, and so contrary to all laws, both human and Divine, that the Undersigned feels certain the enlightened Government of the United States will do their best to clear up the truth, and to send back these unfortunate youths, so inhumanly treated, to their afflicted families.

One of these boys, thanks to the generous protection of some American gentlemen, and to the kindness of the Honourable Mr. Mace, has arrived in this city, and the Undersigned, as in sacred duty bound, has taken him under the protection of this Legation till the pitiful story which he tells of his sufferings has been investigated. If it turn out true, it can hardly be doubted but that his restoration to liberty has been providential, so that the inhuman dealers in human flesh who are implicated in this extraordinary case may be duly punished.

The Undersigned intends to investigate, in the most formal manner, the truth of these occurrences, and the residence of the other five youths, for the purpose of freeing them, and to obtain the punishment of those who deliberately and knowingly have been implicated in their purchase and sale, and to claim from them all the expenses incurred till the children are restored to their families. The best way of accomplishing all this is to send the youth, now in this city, to New Orleans, to enable the Mexican Consul-General there resident to examine the case; but as, from his youthfulness, to send him there alone would expose him to the chance of his titular master seizing him again, and committing a fresh offence, the Undersigned begs the Honourable Secretary to send a civil officer of the United States Government (such a one as the Secretary of State might think fit) to accompany the said boy to the City of New Orleans, and give him up to the Mexican Consul-General, placing him likewise under the protection of the United States authorities, so as to prevent his being again made a slave of, while the truth of the story of his life is being examined into.

The Undersigned would likewise be much pleased if the authorities were told to assist the Mexican Consul in finding out the residence of the other five youths, and in extricating them from the unjust slavery they are in. The Honourable Secretary of State must feel how important it is that this business shall be settled as soon as possible, and he therefore begs him to let the Undersigned know what decision he has come to as soon as possible.

(Signed)

JUAN N. ALMONTE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 258.

*Mr. Marcy to General Almonte.**Department of State, Washington,
March 10, 1854.*

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note of General Almonte of the 7th instant, respecting the young Mexican who is under the protection of the Mexican Legation, and who is said to have been kidnapped by some French pirates on the coast of Yucatan. The Undersigned, in answer, has to inform General Almonte that he has adopted the suggestion of sending a Government official with the young man to New Orleans, who will deliver him up to the Mexican Consul-General; and that Mr. William F. Osborne, an officer of this Department, is ready to start with this object. A copy of General Almonte's note will also be sent to the Attorney-General of the United States in the eastern part of Louisiana, with orders to afford the Mexican Consul-General all the assistance in his power to investigate into the truth of the young man's declaration, to protect him in every way till he embarks for Mexico, and to proceed against all the transgressors of the United States laws who may have taken part in bringing this youth and his companions to this country.

As in some way connected with this subject, the Undersigned takes the liberty of informing General Almonte that he has received information from persons entitled to credit that the Government of Mexico has made an agreement with a Company in the Havana, ceding to it the privilege of exporting, for five years, Yucatan Indians to be employed in the Island of Cuba as apprentices or free labourers. It is presumed that the Mexican Minister will not object to the Undersigned obtaining from him all the information he can grant upon this subject. He sincerely hopes that the result of this inquiry will satisfy him that the information he has received is incorrect. Nevertheless, if, against his hopes, it would appear that this new and extraordinary policy had been, or was to be, adopted by the Mexican Government, the Undersigned would consider it his duty to offer to that Government reasons for abandoning such a policy—reasons which, he hopes, would be sufficient for that purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM L. MARCY.

No. 259.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo,* reporting that you had received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, a copy of an Ordenanza issued by the Captain-General of Cuba, the provisions of which would invalidate the terms of the contract under which Señor Vecino had engaged to introduce Yucatan Indians into that island as free labourers, and that the Mexican Government had consequently, on your representation, given directions that all Yucatan Indians intending to emigrate to Cuba, should be warned to that effect.

And I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 260.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 29, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information printed copies of Decrees* respecting slavery in Cuba which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March last. I also transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office, inclosing a copy of a despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, in which he gives his opinion as to the manner in which those Decrees may operate to the prejudice of colonists repairing to Cuba from Yucatan; and I have to instruct you to inquire into this matter, and report to me whether the Decree in question will have the practical operation apprehended by Mr. Wodehouse, and whether you consider it likely that the Blancos of Yucatan will avail themselves of the opportunity to establish such a Slave Trade as is described by that gentleman.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 260.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.

Sir,

Downing Street, September 20, 1854.

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th June last, forwarding printed copies of Decrees of the Spanish Government respecting slavery in Cuba, I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, the copy of a despatch which has been received upon the subject from the Governor of British Guiana.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 260.

Mr. Wodehouse to Sir George Grey.

Sir,

Government House, George Town, August 5, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your despatch of the 26th June last, forwarding three Decrees of the Queen of Spain upon the subject of slavery in Cuba.

2. There is not in these papers anything having especial reference to British Guiana, but they bear so prominently upon a territory immediately adjoining British Honduras, where I was last employed, and are so closely connected with matters which there came under my immediate notice, that I trust I shall not be taking too great a liberty in offering a few remarks for your consideration, even at the risk of stating circumstances already within your knowledge.

3. The main object of the second of these Decrees is the introduction of what are termed "colonists" from different places, among others from Yucatan; and it is impossible not to perceive, that if the regulations receive the unreserved approval of the British Government, and the introduction of Yucatecos into Cuba is to be permitted to take place without interference or surveillance on our part, a new and recognised Slave Trade will at once spring into active existence.

4. Before remarking on the provisions of the Spanish Decrees, I will bring briefly to your notice some peculiarities of the present political and social condition of Mexico, or at least of its province of Yucatan. The constitution of the Mexican Republic affects to repudiate slavery altogether; but practically it is in full operation, as regards the mutual relations of the

* Inclosures in No. 384.

Blancos or Spaniards, and the Indians inhabiting the State. The Spaniards have generally contrived to get the Indians into debt to them, and they have established a law, that an Indian indebted to a Spaniard must work for him until the debt is liquidated. During this servitude the Spaniard provides him with food and clothing for payment, and as he fixes the prices and also keeps the account, it is not very surprising that the Indian during his whole life is never able to redeem himself from bondage. Nor does the obligation cease here, but the children are compelled to take up the debt of their father. The oppressive operation of this law and other cruelties exercised by the Spaniards, brought about, some years since, a revolt of the Indians, which the former have never been able to subdue, and which has grown into a civil war, characterized by much ferocity on both sides. They have lately attempted to make peace, but both really desire nothing less than the extermination of their rivals; and the correspondence in the Colonial Office will show that the Spanish authorities have more than once exported Indians forcibly to Cuba.

5. It is only too evident that where such feelings exist between the Government and the inhabitants of the country from which the colonists are to be sent to Cuba, the Decree of the Queen of Spain affords no sort of protection or guarantee against fraud and violence of every description. It is not in the smallest degree probable that a Spanish Yucateco will emigrate to Cuba on such terms. The emigrants will all be Indians; a fact of which I believe the Government of the Queen of Spain to have been perfectly aware. The Vth Article of the second decree provides that the contracts are to be in the language of the colonist and *visé* by the Spanish Consul; but the Indians are most illiterate, and would rarely be able, even if they were allowed an opportunity, to read the agreements. With contracts made under such circumstances, and with Cuban authorities to determine all questions arising upon them between the colonists and their employers, what is there to prevent the revivification, as it were, of slavery under this Decree, more especially under the XIXth and five following Articles of it? The Decree appears to be silent as to any limitation of the period for which these contracts may remain in force, but we may fairly presume that they are to be of a very extended character, from the fact that the XXIIInd Article, as a great boon, releases a child born during his mother's contract from its operation on completing eighteen years of age, although the mother may remain in a state of bondage.

6. There are many other Articles in this Decree which, in the absence of *bond fide* protection, at least at the time of the execution of the contracts, must reduce the colonists to a state of slavery. Her Majesty's Government will I have no doubt readily perceive the bearing of them: but at the same time I trust you will pardon my having troubled you with these observations upon the Decrees of which you were good enough to place me in possession.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. WODEHOUSE.

No. 261.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 16.)

My Lord,

Mexico, September 2, 1854.

IN obedience to the instructions which I had the honour to receive from your Lordship in your despatch of 17th of last May, I addressed the note a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling upon his Excellency to inform me what had been the result of the investigation made into the conduct of M. Vivo, now Mexican Minister in Madrid, but who was Consul of this Republic in the Havana, when the noted slaver the "*Lady Suffolk*" was given Mexican papers to sail from thence, under the name of the "*Mariana*," to Laguna de Terminos.

Your Lordship will perceive how little satisfactory this answer ought to have been considered by this Government, and that Señor Vivo again throws

all the blame of what took place on Señor Soler, who he again declares was in charge of the Consulate when this affair took place ; although there is no doubt that Señor Vivo was in the Island of Cuba at that time.

His explanation of the non-appearance of certain documents is very lame ; but I doubt, notwithstanding my efforts, whether any further satisfaction will be obtained, although the judge of the district court at Vera Cruz declared that the honour of the country demanded that the conduct of the *employés* in the Mexican Consulate in the Havana should be strictly investigated.

I have considered it my duty to forward this despatch under flying seal to Mr. Consul-General Crawford at the Havana ; as, being on the spot, he can give your Lordship further information respecting what took place in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 261.

Señor Vivo to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Excellent Sir,

Mexican Legation, Madrid, October 23, 1853.

IN answer to the despatch of your Excellency dated 1st September last, by which you instruct me, in conformity with the commands of his Excellency the President, to give to the Department of Foreign Affairs, with all its circumstances, an account of what took place at the Havana relative to giving the flag ("el abanderamiento") to the ship "*Mary*," this order originating, as your Excellency says, in the information given by Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in the Republic, accusing that ship of being engaged, or having been engaged, in the Slave Trade ; I have to state, that from the information I had previously received on the subject, and that which according to your Excellency's orders I have obtained from the attaché to this Legation, Don Joaquin Soler, and the details he gave me about the matter, the circumstances of the case in question are as follows :—

In the first days of the month of May this year, being myself absent from the Havana, and Don Joaquin Soler having remained in charge, *ad interim*, of the Consulate, Captain William Smith and Don Juan Gutierrez came to him stating that the first named of them had sold to the other, attorney of Don Juan Ruiz, a Mexican subject, the American barque "*Mary*," as declared in the official note which, on that very day, the Mexican Consulate had received from that of the United States, and, in conformity, he requested that the contract of sale should at once be made out according to law. The parties having explicitly stated their wishes, having been sufficiently identified and ascertained to be, the first, attorney of Mr. Henry West of Boston, whose power, fully certified by his respective Consul, was examined and returned by that of Mexico, Don Joaquin Soler, and the second representative of Don Juan Ruiz, in virtue of the power legally delivered by the latter, and which was also duly examined and returned. The contracting parties being agreed as to the conditions of the purchase and sale of the said ship, nothing else to do was left to the Consul but to legalise the contract, a formality which he accordingly performed, as is proved by the copies that your Excellency has sent me.

After this, Don Juan Gutierrez, captain of the ship, which had changed its name to that of "*Mariana*," presented a demand, to the effect of obtaining for the ship under his command, an act of naturalization, Don Juan Ruiz, the real and legitimate owner of it, and in whose name, as has been seen, the ship was bought by Don Juan Gutierrez, being a citizen of the Republic. In conformity with the laws, the Consul having required the corresponding sureties, and Dr. Valentin Corrujos, a merchant of the Havana, having become such for the sum, and in accordance with the terms required by law, a provisional letter patent was delivered to authorize the said ship to sail under Mexican colours, and with that flag it left the port of Cienfuegos, where it had been at anchor, for the Laguna of Terminos.

This is, Excellent Sir, the succinct narration of the facts such as have been stated to me by Don Joaquin Soler, and which are in accordance, from what

I have seen, with the documents, the copies of which I was referred to. In the communications of the present Consul at the Havana, directed to the Department under the charge of your Excellency, as also in those addressed to the Consul-General of Her Britannic Majesty in Cuba, I think I perceive a feeling of alarm, which, in my opinion, is to a very great extent unfounded, since it has no other basis probably but a momentary loss, and certainly a mistake. The first is, that the official note addressed by the Consul of the United States in the Havana to our own Consul, informing him of the articles agreed on previous to the purchase between Don Juan Gutierrez and Captain Smith, had not been found in the archives. The said note must certainly exist in the archives of the Consulate. The second is the reflection which accords with that of the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, that the confirmation of the power of attorney of Captain Smith was not included in the power given by West, but inserted in a separate document; therefore, your Excellency will perceive at once, that that document never having been in existence, could not be found by our Consul, nor a copy sent to that of Her Britannic Majesty.

Your Excellency, who is so well versed in all matters concerning the practice of the law, knows better than I do, that the confirmation of the powers given is inserted in one and the same document which confers them, and that once this document having been examined, read, and returned by M. Soler, it is evident that no other proof of the authority given could be found in the Consulate at the Havana, except by the tenour of the public act of the 13th of May.

I ought, perhaps, to have limited myself to a simple narration of the facts to your Excellency, as I have been requested to do, but I thought it proper to add the observations which precede, as, in my opinion, they will help to make the facts clear, and satisfy the anxiety of our Consul, Don Ramon Carballo. This is all I have to say to your Excellency in answer to the abovementioned note, having, &c.

(Signed) BONAVENTURA VIVO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 261.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, July 19, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to forward to Her Majesty's Government copies of the correspondence which had passed between his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla and himself with respect to the charges brought against Señor Vivo and Señor Soler by the Judge of the District Court of Vera Cruz, in the sentence pronounced by him, on the 23rd of October, 1853, in the case of the slave-vessel called the "*Mariana*."

In that sentence the Judge called the attention of the Supreme Government to what he stated to be a fraudulent act committed by the persons in charge of the Mexican Consulate in the Havana in issuing false papers, compromising thereby the honour of the Mexican nation.

In a note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency on the 24th of last November, he at that time brought before the attention of his Excellency the fact that, although the false papers in question had been signed in the Havana by Don Joaquin Soler, on the 13th of May, 1853, still Señor Vivo, who was at that time Mexican Consul in the Havana, was at that moment there, as he reached the Island of Cuba on the 9th of that month, and only made over the archives of the Consulate to his successor on the 17th, when he took his departure for Madrid to place himself at the head of the Mexican Legation in that capital, to which Legation Señor Soler is also attached.

The Undersigned transmitted to Her Majesty's Government the assurances so repeatedly given him by his Excellency Señor Bonilla, that the conduct of these two persons, holding as they do high offices under this Government, should be strictly examined into, tending as it did to compromise the honour of

this country, and that such a matter would not be lightly dealt with, he has now the honour to inform his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla that he has received fresh instructions from Her Majesty's Government to bring before the earnest attention of his Excellency this matter, and to state that the long period of time which has been so unaccountably suffered to elapse since the transaction in question took place, without any explanation being afforded by those persons, cannot but appear extraordinary to Her Majesty's Government, as they cannot for a moment suppose that the promise given by his Excellency Señor Bonilla will not be strictly adhered to—namely, that a full and searching inquiry should be made into a transaction so flagrant in itself, and so pernicious as an example, if suffered to remain without notice being taken of it by the Mexican Government.

The Undersigned has therefore the honour to request that his Excellency Señor Bonilla will be good enough to inform him whether any explanation has been afforded on this matter, so that he may communicate it, in obedience to the instructions he has lately received, to Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 261.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

National Palace, Mexico, July 27, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive the note of his Excellency Percy William Doyle, which he was pleased to address him on the 19th instant, in which he states that it has appeared strange to his Government that the Government of Mexico has not proceeded in the investigation which it promised concerning the charges that are brought against Messrs. Vivo and Soler on the subject of the flag of the frigate "*Mariana*," which was occupied in the Slave Trade, the said note of his Excellency asking if the gentlemen in question had given any explanation with respect to this, that he might forward it to Her Majesty's Government.

In reply, the Undersigned incloses with this note copy of one which M. Vivo, the present Envoy Extraordinary in Madrid, has been pleased to address on the 23rd of October of last year, giving him the information which he asked since the 1st of October last, and which document proves that the Government of the Undersigned has not omitted to demand proper explanations from this functionary and M. Soler concerning the business which it relates to.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

No. 262.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of September, inclosing a copy of M. Vivo's explanation respecting the conduct of his nephew, M. Soler, and of himself, in the matter of the sailing papers granted to the slaver "*Lady Suffolk*," at the Mexican Consulate in Cuba, on the 13th of May, 1853. I have also received Mr. Crawford's report upon the contents of M. Vivo's explanation.

I observe that M. Vivo's answer to the charges brought against him and M. Soler is dated so far back as the 23rd of October, 1853, and that it must have been received by the Mexican Government in December last. That answer is obviously incomplete and unsatisfactory, with regard to some

material points in the inquiry as to M. Vivo's conduct in this transaction, and I therefore presume that the Mexican Government must have required from that gentleman, and received from him, some further explanation thereupon.

In the first place, it was important that M. Vivo should explain why M. Soler was acting as Consul, *ad interim*, for Mexico, at the time when the sailing papers were granted to the vessel in question.

Upon this point M. Vivo says, in his letter of October, 1853, that, as he was absent during the first days of May 1853, M. Soler acted as Consul *ad interim*; but it is clear that this statement does not contain the whole truth, and M. Bonilla must have been aware that, although M. Vivo was absent from Cuba up to the 9th of May, yet he arrived there on that day, and remained at Havana till the 16th of May, and consequently that he was present in Cuba on the 13th of that month, which was the day on which the "*Mariana*" was registered as a Mexican vessel at the Mexican Consulate.

2ndly. M. Bonilla cannot have forgotten that, in the letter which M. Vivo's successor, M. Carvallo, addressed to Mr. Crawford on the 28th of July, 1853. and which you communicated officially to M. Bonilla on the 22nd of August, 1853, it is stated that no copy is to be found in the archives of the Mexican Consulate at Havana of any letter communicating to the Mexican Consulate the fact that the master of a vessel called the "*Mary*," of Boston, was authorised to sell that vessel. But with regard to the alleged absence of this important document, M. Vivo states, in his letter of the 23rd of October, 1853, as follows:—"Dicho oficio debe indudablemente hallarse en aquel archivo."

Upon the first of these points it is reasonable to suppose that M. Bonilla must have seen the necessity of again asking M. Vivo how it happened that, he being in Cuba on the 13th of May, his nephew was allowed on that day to issue these important documents to the "*Mariana*." And with regard to the second point, it is to be presumed that M. Bonilla, on receiving M. Vivo's positive assertion that the document in question must be recorded in the Mexican Consulate at Havana, would, without delay, require M. Carvallo again to search his archives, and to state definitively whether or not any such document as the alleged letter of the United States' Consul was to be found therein.

You will therefore officially request the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs to inform you whether, on the receipt of the abovementioned letter from M. Vivo, of October 1853, that gentleman was called upon to furnish further explanations of his conduct, and, if so, you will ask to be supplied with a copy of M. Vivo's reply for communication to Her Majesty's Government.

But it appears further, from the inclosed copy of the report on your despatch of the 2nd September which I have received from Mr. Crawford:—

1. That Captain William Smith and Don Juan Gutierrez, the two persons mentioned by M. Vivo as having presented themselves on the 13th of May, 1853, to M. Soler, at the Mexican Consulate, never did so present themselves.

2. That no such document as the power-of-attorney from Henry West, of Boston, duly legalized by the United States' Consul, was presented to, or seen by, any person at the Mexican Consulate, and that no such document was legalized at the Consulate of the United States.

3. That no such ship as the "*Mary*," of Boston, entered the port of Cienfuegos in the year 1853. And,

4. That whereas M. Vivo asserts that Don Valentin Corujos, merchant, of Havana, gave the security required by Mexican law before the papers were granted to the "*Mariana*," Mr. Crawford states that it might be proved officially that no such person as Don Valentin Corujos now exists in Havana, or has been known to have been established there during the last two years.

I have to instruct you to communicate the above statements to the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to inform his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government expect that the Government of Mexico will, without delay, take the necessary steps in order that the proper judicial authorities of the Republic may institute a searching legal inquiry into the whole of the proceedings of M. Vivo and of M. Soler in this transaction, which, as truly

stated in the sentence pronounced by the District Judge of Vera Cruz on the 22nd of November, 1853, so closely affects the honour of the Mexican Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 263.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon—(Received December 1.)

My Lord,

Mexico, November 2, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 2nd of last September I had the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy and translation of a note and its inclosure I had received from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla with respect to the explanation given by Don Buenaventura Vivo, of what had taken place when he was Mexican Consul at the Havana, with regard to Mexican sailing letters having been granted to the vessel called the "*Mariana*," to go to Laguna de Terminos; and I stated that I considered the explanations afforded by Señor Vivo to be so unsatisfactory that I had forwarded my despatch to your Lordship under flying seal to Mr. Consul-General Crawford at the Havana, as from his having been on the spot he might afford further information as to what took place in the matter.

By the last packet, I received from him a copy of his despatch to your Lordship of the 14th of last September; and it so clearly proved the statements advanced by Señor Vivo to be without foundation, that I considered it proper to address to his Excellency Señor Bonilla the note a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, and which I trust may meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure in No. 263.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, October 20, 1854.

AT the same time that the Undersigned, &c., transmitted to Her Majesty's Government the note he had the honour to receive from his Excellency Don M. D. de Bonilla, dated the 27th of last July, inclosing the answer given by Don Buenaventura Vivo to the inquiries made by the Supreme Government of this country, with respect to the issuing the sailing papers for the slave-vessel called the "*Mariana*," but in truth, the "*Lady Suffolk*," the Undersigned forwarded also a copy of that communication to Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, and who, from being on the spot, might furnish such further information as the Undersigned felt would be received with gratification by the Supreme Government of this country, zealous as it has ever been that nothing should alter the high position it assumed and has maintained ever since it declared itself independent with respect to the infamous Traffic in Slaves; he therefore begs to communicate to his Excellency Señor Bonilla the remarks made by Mr. Crawford upon the answer sent to his Excellency by Señor Vivo.

Mr. Crawford states, that he has had interviews both with Mr. Savage, who has been for a long time the Chief Clerk of the Consulate of the United States in the Havana, as well as with the Mexican Consul Señor Carvallo, and which have tended fully to confirm the statements already laid before the Mexican Government.

Señor Vivo throws the whole responsibility of this act upon his nephew Señor Soler, who was, he states, Acting Consul at the time of this transaction; but there can be no doubt that Señor Vivo was in the Havana at the time when it took place, although he did not make over the Consulate to

Señor Carvallo until the 16th of May, a week after his arrival in the Island of Cuba, on his way to Spain, giving as an excuse for not having done so sooner, that he had several affairs to regulate. The archives were received by inventory; but neither in the inventory nor amongst the archives are there any of the documents to be found, which are declared to have been therein deposited, and no such papers as those described were ever issued from the American Consulate, tending thereby to prove that no such persons as those described by Señor Vivo as having appeared at the Mexican Consulate, according to Señor Soler's statement, ever made their appearance.

No such document as the power-of-attorney from Henry West of Boston, duly legalized by the American Consul, was ever presented or seen by any body at the Mexican Consulate, nor has any such document ever been legalized at that of the United States; and finally, as has already been proved by the Undersigned in his note to his Excellency Señor Bonilla of the 5th of September, 1853, no such ship as the "*Mary*" of Boston entered the port of Cienfuegos in that year, as was shown by the certificates of the American Consul and the Captain of that port.

Señor Vivo in his present statement has called up a new person, Don Valentin Corujos, said to be a merchant in the Havana, and made to figure as a bondsman upon the issuing of the sailing letter to the "*Lady Suffolk*," alias "*Mary*" of Boston, alias "*Mariana*."

Mr. Crawford considered it his duty to ascertain at the Mexican Consulate whether such a bond is registered in the archives; and it appears that not only there exist no such documents in the Consulate, but notwithstanding the most stringent inquiries, the existence of Don Valentin Corujos as a merchant in the Havana, is entirely unknown to every one who is at all likely to know about him; and it would not be difficult to prove officially, if necessary, that no such person has ever been known to have been established in the Havana during the last two years.

Mr. Crawford further remarks, that at the time when this transaction took place, Señor Soler was a mere youth, and it is hardly to be supposed that, in a transaction of such a nature, he should not have requested the advice of Señor Vivo at that time in the Havana, or that Señor Vivo's attention should not have been attracted by the fact of hardly any of the instructions of the Mexican Government having been complied with, with respect to granting its flag to foreign-built vessels.

The above are the principal observations made by Mr. Crawford in a despatch to Her Majesty's Government, a copy of which he forwarded to the Undersigned, who considers it his duty to lay them before his Excellency Señor Bonilla, who has shown such interest in this matter, and has given to the Undersigned such constant assurances of his determination to clear up by every means in his power the commission of an act which was described by Judge Oropeza in the latter portion of his sentence, when he condemned the "*Mariana*" as a slaver, as a fraudulent act, and to which he called the attention of the Supreme Government, because it compromised the honour of the Mexican nation.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 264.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Mexico, December 3, 1854.

A COLONEL JIMENEZ, formerly Aide-de-camp of General Santa Anna, but dismissed from his staff, went to Yucatan, some months since, as the agent of Don Tito Vecino to induce some of the Indians to go to the Havana as colonists, upon the terms granted by this Government to Señor Vecino, and which were transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 2nd of February last.*

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 252.

Having failed entirely in inducing any Indians to accept the terms proposed, Colonel Jimenez came here lately to make some propositions, as agent for the house of Goicouria and Co. of the Havana, with respect to such Indians as had been made prisoners in the war of castes still going on in Yucatan. I was enabled through a private source to ascertain the nature of the propositions made both by Colonel Jimenez and other persons for other commercial houses in the Havana. They were to the following effect :— That they should supply a force armed and equipped, officers and men, at their own expense, amounting to 200 men, to make war against the Indians, keeping for their own purposes all the Indians they could make prisoners, paying for them besides to the Mexican Government at the rate of fifteen dollars a-head. This was the atrocious offer made, but the one which Colonel Jimenez showed my informant as having been accepted by the President and signed by the Minister of War, was as follows :—

That the house of Goicouria and Co. should pay into the Government Treasury 20,000 dollars, in two payments of 10,000 dollars each. That on the payment of the first 10,000 dollars all the prisoners already in the hands of the Government authorities should be made over to Colonel Jimenez ; that is to say, such as he considered fit for the labour they were to undergo, and on the payment of the second 10,000 dollars, all such prisoners as had been made since the first payment, were then to be given over at once to them, and for the future all prisoners made during the time the war lasted were equally to be placed at his disposal.

It was stipulated that the privilege thus granted to the house of Goicouria and Co. should not be an exclusive one, but the Indians could only be sent to the Island of Cuba, and not to any other island in the West Indies, and they were to remain for five years in the power of the house of Goicouria and Co., after which time they were to be considered as free, their five years labour being considered as penalty enough for their having risen against the Government of Yucatan.

As soon as I knew of Colonel Jimenez's arrival, I took the necessary measures for finding out what was the precise object of his journey, and having heard vaguely of the nature of the propositions he was about to make to the Government, I lost no time in addressing a note on the subject to Señor Bonilla. I received subsequently a visit from the Colonel, who told me partly what were his plans, but not all of them. I, however, frankly told him that I would resist to the utmost anything in the shape of slavery, however it might be disguised.

The day after his visit I was informed verbally of the real terms agreed upon and signed by the Minister of War ; which I wrote down at once and inclose herewith for your Lordship's information.

I immediately went to the Foreign Office and put this paper into Señor Bonilla's hands, telling him what I knew had taken place ; and upon his giving me every assurance that he knew nothing of such being the case, as he had not seen the President for two days, I called upon him at once to take the necessary measures for having the contract made with Colonel Jimenez revoked, reading to him, at the same time, some extracts of the correspondence on this very point, which was laid last year before Parliament, adding that Her Majesty's Government would not for a moment tolerate such an arrangement ; that the excuse given could not be held to be valid, namely, that if the prisoners were sent to another part of the Republic they would return to Yucatan, because if colonization was the object, they could send them to Lower California or other points of the Republic, from whence it was impossible they could make their way back to Yucatan ; but taking prisoners by force, and sending them to a foreign country, to be under foreign masters for a certain number of years, could not be called colonization, and the excuse of their being prisoners of war, would place this country below the level of Africa, because the prisoners sold into a state of slavery there, were not like the Yucatan Indians, who enjoyed all the privileges and rights of citizenship according to the constitution of this country ; and I further called to his Excellency's attention the certainty that the unfortunate Indians in question would be held in a state of slavery during the whole of their lives.

Señor Bonilla, after repeating in the most positive manner the assurances he had before given me of his ignorance of any arrangement having been actually made with Colonel Jimenez, requested me to write him a note on the

subject at once, adding that when the question had been discussed in the Council of Ministers, he had told the President that nothing must be done which could be turned into slavery, as he felt assured I should at once protest against every such plan, and his Excellency told me that he would support, and get the majority of his colleagues to support, the representation I intended to make. I at once drew up a note, stating I was aware of what nature the propositions presented were, but that I felt equally certain they would never be accepted by his Excellency. The result has been, that the President has said it would be considered by him as an offence were any one to consider him capable of entering into such a plan, and that every care would be taken that the Treaty between Great Britain and Mexico shall be respected, and no Indians sent to the Island of Cuba against their will. Notwithstanding all that has taken place, I feel certain, that if great care be not taken, the unfortunate Indians will be forced to go to Cuba.

I was instructed by your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of last September, to report whether I considered, from the observations made to Sir George Grey by Mr. Wodehouse, that abuses might be committed under the new law of colonization for the Island of Cuba by the inhabitants of Yucatan. My best answer, perhaps, would be the contents of the present despatch. Were the terms properly carried out, perhaps there might be but little chance of abuse; but as such is little likely to be the case, I quite coincide in the view taken by Mr. Wodehouse of this matter.

As Colonel Jimenez has embarked at Vera Cruz for the Havana, on his way to Yucatan, I have considered it my duty to send this despatch under flying seal to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, so that he may watch the Colonel's proceedings during his stay there, and put himself into communication on this matter with the Mexican Consul, to whom Señor Bonilla has promised me that proper instructions shall be sent.

I shall also inform the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces in the West Indies of the representations I have made against any Indians being forced to go to the Island of Cuba, as intended, so that should such eventually be the case, he may take such measures as he may judge proper for preventing its continuance.

Inclosure 1 in No. 264.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, November 10, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been informed that plans have been laid before this Government by the agents of a commercial house in the Havana, as well as by other persons, by which it is proposed that all such Indians as may be made prisoners in the war of castes, still unfortunately in existence in the Peninsula of Yucatan, shall be hired out to them, and sent to the Island of Cuba for a certain term of years. The Undersigned is well aware of the extreme jealousy with which the present, as indeed all the Governments of this Republic have viewed any attempt to induce them to waive the high position this country assumed from the first day of its independence, upon the question of the Slave Trade, and the Undersigned has every confidence, from the stringent regulations which were drawn up by his Excellency Don Manuel Díez de Bonilla, under which Don Tito Vecino was allowed to engage colonists to go to the Island of Cuba, that his Excellency will not countenance any attempt virtually to carry on the Slave Trade as it were under the auspices of the present Government, his Excellency will not fail to see at once the great difference between the permission given by him to Señor Vecino to engage such Indians as were willing to go to the Island of Cuba as colonists, from that which the Undersigned has been informed is now sought to be obtained, namely, of sending to that island by force the Indians who may be made prisoners of war, and who, it is to be recollected, enjoy according to the constitution of this country all the rights and privileges of citizenship. The Undersigned feels certain that his Excellency Don Manuel Díez de Bonilla will see at once the license a grant of such a nature would give, and what abuses could be committed were it sanctioned by this Government. The

Undersigned, therefore, trusts most sincerely that his Excellency will not listen for a moment to a proposition of such a nature; for leaving aside the question of the rights acquired by those Indians of citizenship, according to the constitution of this country, it would tend not only to infringe virtually the Treaty for the abolition of Slave Trade existing between Great Britain and Mexico, but would place this Government in a position which the Undersigned cannot believe they would accept, namely, that of being the first Government of this Republic which has authorised the possibility of the Slave Trade being carried on, for such would be the effect of the arrangement proposed to the Government, however much it may be attempted to be hidden by the persons interested in getting their iniquitous plan carried into execution; but as this is a matter of great importance, the Undersigned has the honour to request his Excellency Señor Bonilla will be good enough to inform him what may be the intentions of the Mexican Government, so that he may communicate them to that of Her Majesty.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 264.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, November 13, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to address a note to his Excellency Don M. D. de Bonilla on the 10th instant, in consequence of a report having reached him that a plan had been proposed to this Government, to place at the disposal of certain commercial houses in the Havana, such Indians as had been already or should hereafter be made, prisoners in the war of castes, still in existence in the Peninsula of Yucatan, and the Undersigned expressed the certainty he felt that no such proposition would be listened to by the Supreme Government.

Since writing that note the Undersigned has been informed of the terms which it is the desire of the persons interested in this matter should be accepted by the Mexican Government, and they are of such a nature as to render it necessary that the Undersigned should address this further communication to his Excellency Señor Bonilla without loss of time. Those terms are said to be as follows, viz.: That the persons interested will, if the Supreme Government desire it, keep on foot a body of 200 men armed and officered at their expense to make war against the Indians, they having the right to send to the Island of Cuba all the prisoners they might make; and offering, besides to pay the Supreme Government for them, at the rate of fifteen dollars a-head. Should such terms not meet the approbation of the Government, they profess themselves ready to pay down a sum of 20,000 dollars, in two payments; on the payment of the first 10,000 dollars, they are to receive all the prisoners already in the power of the Government, who they may consider fit for the work they are intended for; and on the payment of the second 10,000 dollars, they are to receive all such other prisoners as may have been made subsequently to the payment of the first 10,000, and such as may hereafter be made as long as the war lasts.

These prisoners are to remain in the power of the commercial houses making this contract for the term of five years.

These are the principal terms which the Undersigned understands are to be proposed to the Supreme Government.

The Undersigned will not enter into discussion with respect to them, because he is perfectly certain that the Supreme Government will reject them at once, as they deserve, taking into consideration, as far as Mexico is concerned, that they would break through not only the rights of citizenship enjoyed by those Indians, but this Government would shrink from the imputation to which it might lay itself open, of condemning to a state of slavery, men who, from their unhappy state of ignorance, deserve more than others the paternal care of an enlightened Government; for much as the persons interested may wish to conceal this transaction under the name of colonization, these unfortunate men would be

but slaves, for colonists are not prisoners of war, sent by force to live in a foreign land, under foreign masters, and exiled for a certain term of years.

The Undersigned will only repeat the assurance he feels, that this proposition will be rejected at once; and he feels the more certain that such will be the case, from the fact, that it would virtually be an infringement of the Slave Trade Treaty in existence between this country and Great Britain, by which slavery is declared to be totally and perpetually abolished in every part of the Mexican territory, and that the flag of Mexico shall never be employed in any way to cover the Slave Trade. And this Treaty was signed in 1841, by the same illustrious person, who was then, as he is now, called to rule the destinies of this country, and who has always shown himself so determined an enemy to anything like slavery, in any shape, being attempted to be carried on in this Republic by any Mexican citizen, or out of it under the Mexican flag, to which the Undersigned was a witness lately in the prosecution and condemnation of the noted slaver "*Mariana*."

But as these propositions may reach Her Majesty's Government through the Havana, the Undersigned would feel obliged by his Excellency Señor Bonilla putting it into his power to write about them to his Government, by the packet which will leave Vera Cruz for New Orleans, on the 22nd instant, so as to do away at once with such disagreeable impressions as their having come to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government may possibly have caused.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 264.

Memorandum of Terms for Yucatan Indians to go to Cuba.

EN vista de las propuestas hechas por el Señor Coronel Jimenez como apoderado de la casa Goicoria y Hermano de la Habana, en que ofrece poner por cuenta de dicha casa una fuerza de 200 hombres equipados, armados y pagados, tropas y oficiales, con objeto de hacer la guerra á los sublevados de Yucatan tomando los prisioneros que podran hacer, y enviarse á la Isla de Cuba, pagando ademas por cada uno de ellos la cantidad de 15 pesos;

S. A. S. se ha servido modificar las propuestas del modo siguiente:

1. Señor Jimenez á nombre de sus poderdantes entregará en las cajas del Estado la cantidad de 20,000 pesos en dos plazos.

2. Hecho el primer pago, se le entregará todos los prisioneros que existen y tengan las condiciones necesarias para el trabajo á que deben destinarse, y despues del segundo plazo, se le seguiran entregando los que hubieron.

3. Este privilegio no es esclusivo á la casa de los Señores Goicoria y Hermano, si no que el Gobierno tendrá la facultad de concederlo á otros, pero si se entiende que solamente esta limitada á la unica Isla de Cuba, escluyendo á las otras antillas.

4. Estos prisioneros quedarán en poder de los Señores Goicoria y Hermano por el espacio de cinco anos, tiempo que S. A. S. considera suficiente para el castigo de su sublevacion, siendo libres Concluido este tiempo.

(Translation.)

WITH reference to the proposals made by Colonel Jimenez, as representative of the House of Goicoria and Brother, of Havana, offering to supply, on account of the said house, a force of 200 men, equipped, armed, and paid, rank and file, for the purpose of making war against the insurgents of Yucatan, taking the prisoners made by them, who are to be sent to the Island of Cuba, on payment of 15 dollars a head for each prisoner;

His Serene Highness has been pleased to modify these proposals as follows:

1. M. Jimenez shall, on behalf of his employers, pay into the Public Treasury the sum of 20,000 dollars in two instalments.

2. On payment of the first instalment all existing prisoners who may be properly qualified for the work in which they are to be employed shall be made over to him; and after payment of the second instalment, the delivery to him of any others in hand shall be continued.

3. This privilege is not granted exclusively to Messrs. Goicoria, but the Government shall be at liberty to grant the same to other persons; it being understood, however, that it is solely available for the Island of Cuba, to the exclusion of the other West India Islands.

4. These prisoners shall belong to Messrs. Goicoria for five years, which period of servitude his Serene Highness considers sufficient for the punishment of their rebellion, they being free on the expiration of that period.

Inclosure 4 in No. 264.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

National Palace, Mexico, December 1, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has received the notes that, under date of the 10th and 13th of last month, his Excellency Percy W. Doyle was pleased to address him in relation to the information he had received of the proposals that the agents of a commercial house at the Havana had made to the Supreme Government, with the view of obtaining permission to carry over to the Island of Cuba, under certain conditions, the Indians of Yucatan who may be made prisoners during the war that is being carried on in that department.

The Undersigned laid the said notes before his Serene Highness the General President, who sees with satisfaction that his Excellency Mr. Doyle considers as an impossibility any kind of protection rendered by the actual Government of the Republic to the Traffic in Slaves, and particularly if it were to be carried on at the expense of the very sons of the Republic; and his Excellency Mr. Doyle does due justice to the supreme head of the State, who would be incapable of carrying on a commerce in Mexicans, selling them as slaves, the mere supposition of which would be a grievous insult on the part of any person who could entertain such a thought, because his Serene Highness has at all times, and under every circumstance, given unequivocal proofs of his humane and philanthropic sentiments, which he would be very loath to belie by giving his acquiescence to a concession that would even allow of the possibility of any of his fellow-citizens being reduced to so sad and lamentable a condition.

For this reason his Serene Highness thinks that both the notes of his Excellency Mr. Doyle ought to be answered by assuring him that the permissions that he may give to transport the Indians of Yucatan to any other part, will never contain clauses or conditions that may possibly be interpreted in such a way as to allow of their being considered as slaves, but, on the contrary, they will be modelled after the terms of the concession granted to Don Tito Vecino, which his Excellency Mr. Doyle considers as a powerful restriction against that abuse.

Upon this understanding, his Excellency Mr. Doyle will see that there has never been the remotest idea on the part of this Government to protect or tolerate a traffic of such an abominable nature as that in any description of mankind, and which is unfortunately carried on with the African race who arrive at the Island of Cuba, and are then sold that they and their posterity may remain perpetually under a strange dominion, just as if they were a herd of cattle, to the horror of humanity and civilization.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

No. 265.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Mexico, December 3, 1854.

I HAD the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in my despatch of the 2nd ultimo, a copy of a note I had addressed to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, proving how unfounded were the statements advanced by Señor Vivo, late Mexican Consul at the Havana, with respect to the false documents given to the master of the "*Mariana*," alias "*Lady Suffolk*," which vessel was condemned as a slaver at Vera Cruz. And I have now the honour to inclose a copy of his Excellency's answer, by which your Lordship will perceive that a copy of my note has been sent to Señor Vivo, in order to make Señor Soler answer the charges brought against him.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure in No. 265.

*Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.**Palacio Nacional, Mexico, 6 de Noviembre de 1854.*

EN contestacion á la nota de su Excelencia el Señor Doyle fecha 26 de Octubre proximo pasado, relativa á la conducta observada por el Consul Mexicano en la Havana con motivo del abanderamiento de la fragata "*Mariana*," el Infrascrito, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, tiene la honra de informar á su Excelencia que ha trasladado su nota citada al Señor Vivó á fin de que haga que el Señor Soler conteste á los cargos que le resultan.

El Infrascrito, &c.

(Firmado)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

No. 266.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo,* inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting the bargain proposed to be made by Colonel Jimenez with Messrs. Goicoria and Co. of Havana, for the purpose of selling to them the penal services of the Yucatan Indians, who may be made prisoners in the war against them which is now being carried on in that province.

And I have to instruct you to inform the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have entirely approved the vigilant and energetic exertions made by you in order to defeat this disgraceful scheme.

* No. 264.

No. 267.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of an instruction* which I have addressed to Lord Howden, inclosing a copy of your despatch of the 3rd of December last, and directing him to urge the Spanish Government to take steps for preventing the importation into Cuba of the Yucatan Indian prisoners.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 268.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 3rd of December last,† respecting the proposed transportation of Yucatan Indians to Cuba, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the representations of Her Majesty's Government upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 269.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 5.)

My Lord,

Mexico, February 2, 1855.

I HAVE received from Señor Regil y Peon, British Consular Agent at Merida, copy of a despatch and its inclosures, which he had addressed to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, with respect to the forced embarkation of forty-five Indian prisoners, to be placed at the disposal of the House of Goicouria in the Havana.

I immediately addressed the inclosed note on this subject to Señor Bonilla, calling to his Excellency's attention the manner in which the then Governor of Yucatan, and Colonel Jimenez, the agent of the house of Goicouria, had broken through the direct orders of this Government, the constitution of the country, and had also virtually broken through the Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Mexico, by forcing these unfortunate creatures to go to the Havana, and be kept there for a term of years, to all intents and purposes in a state of slavery; and I particularly called to his Excellency's attention the answer of Governor Cardenas to the petition of these unfortunate people, praying that they might not be sent out of their country, as they had never taken a share in the rebellion.

General Cardenas declared that he would not listen to their petition, because they were prisoners of war; whereas the Supreme Government had especially directed that all the Indians contracting to go as colonists should be told that they were entirely at liberty to do so or not, as they chose,—a right to which they were clearly entitled by the constitution of this country, by which they enjoy every right of citizenship. I have also in a further note called upon this Government to withdraw the privilege of embarking Indians at a point called Rio Lagartos, as it may be made the means of great abuses

* No. 435.

† No. 264.

‡ No. 443.

being committed, as well as the privilege granted in 1848 to Don Francisco Martin y Torrens to form a fishing establishment in the Isla de Mujeres.

Señor Bonilla has promised me that he will not fail to lay my notes before His Serene Highness the President, and give me an answer as soon as possible; nor have I failed to lay before his Excellency's attention the certainty of this conduct pursued towards the Indians, rendering the war of castes, which has unhappily been raging so long in Yucatan, of a still more sanguinary character, and the equal certainty of rendering peace hopeless.

I confess I am at a loss to understand the policy of this Government in not making use of every means in its power to put an end to this Traffic, being in want, as this country is, of people to cultivate its soil, and moreover that such conduct pursued by the local authorities towards the Indians would do much to induce them to offer their country to the Americans,—an offer which it is far from unlikely would be refused, and indeed this is an argument which should have its weight in preventing the Spanish authorities in the Island of Cuba from permitting such a system to be continued.

I have just received a despatch from Mr. Consul-General Crawford, by which I perceive that he has laid the whole case before your Lordship. I find it reported that the Indians who had arrived there had declared that they had gone there of their own accord.

I do not understand who was present when they were interrogated; but I confess I put more faith in the petition these unfortunate people made to Governor Cardenas before they were expatriated, than in the result of this interrogation on their arrival in the Havana.

The result of it, however, is, that his Excellency General Concha has declared that he felt bound to admit them as free colonists under the present Spanish law of colonization.

Her Majesty's steam-ship "Buzzard" being at this moment at Vera Cruz, I shall request the Commander to call in at the Port of Sisal, and put himself in communication with Señor Peon, who has acted throughout the whole business with great energy, and make a report of all that is going on there to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, or to Admiral Fanshawe, should he still be at the Havana.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 269.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, January 20, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Mexican Republic, that he has just received some despatches from the British Consular Agent in Merida, containing facts of a most important nature, as they fully prove that Señor Cardenas, the Acting Governor of Yucatan, and Colonel Jimenez, the agent of the house of Goicouria in the Havana, have committed the most cruel acts of oppression towards a large body of unfortunate Indian prisoners who have been condemned, to all intents and purposes, to a state of slavery by these two persons, virtually violating as they have done the Treaty for the abolition of slavery between Great Britain and this country, violating at the same time the constitution of this country, and breaking through the positive orders of the Supreme Government.

The statement laid before the Undersigned by Señor Don Pedro Regil y Peon is to the following effect:—

A large number of Indians in the prisons in Merida have been sent, against their will, to the Havana, and placed at the disposal of the house of Goicouria in that capital, and notwithstanding that the most earnest appeal was made to his Excellency by these unfortunate beings, in which they declared that they had never joined the ranks of the insurrectionists, but had been taken up merely on suspicion of siding with the rebels, and stated that it was entirely and absolutely against their will their being sent out of the

country. Señor Cardenas, in answer to this petition (copies of both which documents are inclosed), declared it to be without foundation, inasmuch as he considered them prisoners of war; and Señor Cardenas has also declared publicly that he was acting in accordance with orders he had received from the Supreme Government in sending, as he had done, these unfortunate persons on board a Mexican vessel called the "Maria Jacinta," and sent to the Havana, to be placed, as before stated, at the disposal of the house of Goicouria in a virtual state of slavery.

The Undersigned feels it unnecessary, after the correspondence which has already taken place between the Mexican Government and himself upon this subject, to enter into any further details with respect to the effect which the criminal conduct of the two persons engaged in this nefarious transaction must produce throughout the entire Peninsula of Yucatan. He will merely call to his Excellency's attention the fact that one of the first and obvious consequences of this act of oppression must be, that it will raise up such a spirit of exasperation on the part of the Indian population, as cannot but have the effect of rendering the war of Castes now raging in Yucatan of a still more sanguinary character, and must render all efforts on the part of the Supreme Government to bring this war to a termination entirely fruitless. In presence, however, of the above facts, and of the manner in which the Treaty for the abolition of slavery between Great Britain and this country has been wilfully violated by Señor Cardenas, the Governor of Yucatan, and by Colonel Jimenez, who was authorised by this Government to act as agent for the house of Goicouria, the Undersigned, in compliance with his duty, calls upon this Government to have those two persons brought immediately to trial, and properly punished for the breach they have committed in a solemn international engagement, and that measures be taken at once, through the Mexican Consul at the Havana, to have these unfortunate creatures restored to their country without loss of time, and that due measures be taken to prevent the embarkation from Yucatan, under similar circumstances, of any more of these unhappy creatures.

The Undersigned is assured that this appeal will not be made by him in vain to the Supreme Government of this country, taking into consideration, as he does, that the constitution of this country, and the direct and positive orders of the Supreme Government, have also been so wilfully violated upon a matter in which this Government has shown itself so zealous to support the high and honourable position this Republic has ever assumed with respect to the question of slavery, and that moreover it was his Serene Highness General St. Anna who signed the very Treaty for the abolition of slavery, which has been violated by the two persons of whom the Undersigned makes this formal complaint, in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 269.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to the note of this day's date which the Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to address to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, Minister of State, and charged with the Foreign Department, there are two points relative to the question of putting a stop to the fraudulent abduction of Indians from Yucatan, which the Undersigned considers it his duty also to bring before the earnest attention of his Excellency.

The first point to which the Undersigned will allude, is a permission which has just been granted by the Governor of the Department of Yucatan to the Company established for sending colonists to Yucatan, to embark the Indians from Rio Lagartos. The Undersigned has only to refer to the contents of his note of this day's date on this subject, to prove to his Excellency Señor Bonilla, the danger of allowing such a grant to exist, situated as Rio Lagartos is, so far

from the vigilance of the proper authorities, and when such a shameful abuse of the orders of the Supreme Government has just been committed under the eyes of the authorities in Merida.

The second point to which the Undersigned desires to call the attention of his Excellency Señor Bonilla, is a grant which was made in the year 1848 by the State authorities in Yucatan, to a Don Francisco Martin y Torrens to form an establishment nominally for a fishing station in the Isla de Mujeres.

In a note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency on the 29th of last March, he brought this matter before him, inclosing at the same time a copy of the grant made by the then Government of Yucatan.

Since which time, from the inquiries which the Undersigned has made of persons living in that country, and those who have exercised authority in it, no doubt remains in his mind that the grant has been made the means of fraudulently sending Indians to the Island of Cuba.

It is perfectly evident, moreover, that the grant in question is illegal, as neither under the federal system of Government, and much less under the present one, could any Governor of a State concede the permission in question, it being clearly in the province of the Supreme Government to do so.

The Undersigned, therefore, trusts that his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla will bring the contents of this note to the early attention of his Serene Highness the President, and the Undersigned has no doubt that such orders will be given by his Highness on these points as will at once put an end to such abuses on the part of the local authorities, knowing, as the Undersigned does, the determination of his Serene Highness to put down any attempt to carry on the Slave Trade either within the limits of the Mexican territory, or under its flag.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 270.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 9, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, stating that the Governor of Yucatan has transported from Merida to Havana 45 Indian prisoners, natives of Yucatan, whose services as labourers have been sold by the Mexican Government to the house of Goicouria and Co., of Havana, for a term of five years, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps which you have taken with regard to this affair.

No. 271.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

(Extract.)

Mexico, February 7, 1855.

IN my despatch of the 2nd instant, I had the honour to inform your Lordship, that as soon as I received an answer to the notes I had addressed to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, complaining of the conduct of the Governor of Yucatan in sending Indians by force to the Havana, I should forward that answer by Captain Dobbie, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Buzzard," to the Havana, so that both Rear-Admiral Fanshawe, now in that port, as well as Mr. Consul-General Crawford, might be made aware of its contents.

Having just received that answer, I lose no time in forwarding it herewith; by it your Lordship will perceive that his Serene Highness the President

has directed that the conduct of Governor Cardenas should be inquired into, as well as to the facts of the privileges granted for the embarkation of Indians from Rio Lagartos and the state of the fishing establishment at the Isla de Mujeres.

His Excellency objects to Señor Peon having officially protested against the acts of Governor Cardenas, as he should have referred the matter to me ; but what is of very great importance, is that the grants made to the Houses of Goicoria and Zangroniz have been revoked as far as the Indian prisoners are concerned, and that henceforward only free Indians will be allowed to be sent to the Havana as colonists.

If this plan be fairly carried out by the local authorities, it is evident, as has been already shown by the grants made to Señor Vecino, that no Indians will voluntarily go to the Island of Cuba ; at any rate it will enable Mr. Consul-General Crawford, in presence of this declaration of Señor Bonilla, to call upon the Captain-General of Cuba to send back all such Indians to Yucatan.

I have requested Commander Dobbie to call off Sisal and Rio Lagartos on his way to the Havana, as I consider the presence of one of Her Majesty's vessels of war, even for a very short time, may be of the greatest service in holding in check the local authorities ; and I have not failed to call to the attention of Señor Peon the fact of the revocation of the permission to send prisoners as colonists to the Island of Cuba, and have directed him to pay every attention to this point.

I shall have the honour of forwarding to your Lordship, by the next packet, a copy of my answer to the note I have just received from Señor Bonilla, in which I shall call again to his Excellency's attention the fact of my complaint against Señor Cardenas having been founded on his own answer to the petition of the Indians, to which he would not listen, because, he said, he considered them as prisoners of war ; thus going against the direct orders of his Government, the constitution of the country, and virtually breaking through our Treaty with Mexico for the abolition of the Slave Trade ; and it was with the view of preventing acts of so grave a nature that Señor Peon felt bound to interfere ; and in doing so his Excellency will perceive that he acted as much in the interest of the Supreme Government, whose orders were being disobeyed, as in the watching over the due observance of the Treaty in force between the two countries.

Inclosure 1 in No. 271.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

National Palace, Mexico, February 6, 1855.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has the honour of communicating to his Excellency Percy W. Doyle, that his Serene Highness the General President has been pleased to direct that the Governor of Yucatan shall be asked for the information necessary respecting all the points contained in his two notes of the 20th of last month, which his Excellency Mr. Doyle addressed to the Undersigned relative to the Indians of that department recently contracted for by the house of Goicouria and Brothers, of Havana, who have been sent to the Island of Cuba. As notwithstanding that said Governor reported upon this business to the Supreme Government, the latter is anxious in having the circumstances and acts which have intervened cleared up, which his Excellency Mr. Doyle reveals, in order to dictate such measures as may be necessary.

That functionary has informed the Undersigned of the communications which took place between him and the Consular Agent of Her Britannic Majesty at Merida and Sisal as to the intervention which he wished to have, and which was not allowed in the matter of the contracts and conveyance to Cuba of the Indians referred to, the Supreme Government not being able to do less than acknowledge that that Governor acted according to his duty in not allowing the said Agent to interfere with the exercise of his authority over national subjects ; and it is to be hoped, that his Excellency Mr. Doyle will be pleased to intimate

to the said Consular Agent, that he is not to make pretensions which are, like those, beyond the attributes he exercises.

The Undersigned, for this purpose, makes known to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, as a new proof that his Serene Highness interests himself more than any one in the welfare of his countrymen; and upon principle, he never will consent that, even apparently, any of them should remain in the condition of slaves, that notwithstanding that did not appear, but rather that such a possibility was destroyed by the express conditions under which the houses of Zangroniz and Goicouria were allowed to contract and convey Indians prisoners from Yucatan to Cuba. His Serene Highness being desirous to keep away every sinister interpretation of the benevolent intentions by which he was animated in granting such permissions, he was pleased expressly to revoke them since the 2nd of December last, when the respective orders were communicated by this Ministry, so that if the Governor of Yucatan permitted the contracting and transmission to Cuba of any prisoners, it was because the said orders had not been received by him.

This Ministry has received from the Consul of the Republic in Havana a communication in which he reports the arrival there of the Indians, prisoners of whom we are treating, by the national schooner "Maria Jacintha," on the 7th of January last, and as well by that as by the proceeding which that officer practised with due solemnity on board of said vessel, it appears that they went freely and voluntarily contracted, that they were satisfied and content with the way they had been engaged, had had good treatment and abundant victuals on their voyage, having nothing whatever to complain of, and were all resolved to remain in Cuba to fulfil their engagements.

The Undersigned incloses a copy of that document to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, as it serves for the most complete refutation of the violence and force which the English Consular Agent in Merida supposes had been used towards said Indians, and of which he informed his Excellency Mr. Doyle, who will see that none of them took advantage of the offer made to them by the Consul to restore them to Yucatan, as they would have done if in reality they had gone against their will, or had been deceived by false contracts.

The Supreme Government is persuaded that his Excellency Mr. Doyle, taking into consideration all that is set forth in this note, will be convinced that in the affair to which this has reference, the Government has acted justly; and that there is no reason for supposing that the Indians of Yucatan, contracted for the Island of Cuba, will be reduced to a state of slavery, or that in the execution of such measures there is any violation of the Treaty between the Republic and Great Britain for abolition of the Traffic in Slaves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 271.

Declaration of Mexican Consul at the Havana.

Consulado de la República Mexicana en la Havana.

A LAS diez de la mañana de hoy 8 de Enero de 1855, pasé á bordo de la goleta Mexicana "Maria Jacinta," acompañado del interprete Don Ignacio Cámara, natural de Merida de Yucatan, de los Señores Don Ramon Serafin Diaz, Don Juan Pablo de los Rios y Don Antonio Mir, á tomar las declaraciones con arreglo á las instrucciones que tengo del Supremo Gobierno de mi nacion á los indigenos de Yucatan, Pascual Tamay, Juan Carrich, Calisto Alan, Hermenegildo Chan, José Cenobio Chin, Diego Pue, Antonio Cumul, José Martin Chan, Eusebio Canil, Raymundo Tun, Pascual Té, Antonio Xeel, Victoriano Chin, Juan Noh, Julian de la Cruz Han, Laureano Canul, Eleuterio Tamay, Diego Chi, Augustin Namat, Victoriano Cruz, José Maria Day, Jacinto Dil, Fernando Chan, Juan Balbine Uukul, Pedro Cupal, Estevan Cub, Pedro Han, Hilaria Can casada con Pedro Han, que han venido contratados por los Señores Goicouria Hermanos, para los trabajos de esta isla; y habiendoles preguntado á cada uno de ellos por medio del citado Don Ignacio Cámara si venian libres y voluntaria-

mente contratados, para trabajar en esta isla, han respondido que sí. Preguntados si se les había hecho alguna violencia para traerlos á la fuerza por medio de amenazas, han respondido, que no les han hecho violencia alguna ni engaño, que estaban muy contentos y satisfechos de la manera con que venian contratados. Preguntados si durante la navegacion les habian dado buen trato y buenos alimentos, han contestado que el Capitan Dorantes les habia dado un trato excelente y abundantes comidas por lo que absolutamente no tenian de que quejarse; y finalmente habiendoles preguntado á todos los veintiocho indigenos de Yucatan arriba mencionados, que si habia alguno que no estuviese contento, que saliese á manifestarlo para que fuese devuelto á Yucatan, pues el Supremo Gobierno de la República no queria que se hiciese violencia ni engaño á ninguno de ellos; han contestado que no teniendo motivo alguno de queja, estaban resueltos á quedarse y cumplir sus compromisos. Con lo cual quedó concluido este acto, que firmamos los presentes conmigo el infrascrito Consul en la fecha arriba dicha.

Es copia fiel y esacta de que se halla inscrita en las paginas 65 y 66 del libro A, Protocolos de este Consulado.

(Firmado)

RAMON CARBALLO.

Havana, Enero 14 de 1855.

(Translation.)

Consulate of the Mexican Republic in Havana.

AT ten o'clock in the morning of this day, the 8th of January, 1855, I went on board the Mexican schooner "Maria Jacinta," accompanied by Don Ignacis Cámara, a native of Merida, in Yucatan, the interpreter, and by Messrs. Don Ramon Serafin Diaz, Don Juan Pallo de los Rios, and Don Antonio Mir, in order to receive, in accordance with the instructions of the Supreme Government of my nation, the declarations of Pascual Tamay, Juan Carrich, Calisto Aban, Hermenegildo Chan, José Cenobio Chin, Diego Pue, Antonio Cumul, José Martin Chan, Eusebio Canil, Raymundo Tun, Pascual Té, Antonio Xeel, Victoriano Chin, Juan Noh, Julian de la Cruz Han, Laureano Canul, Eleuterio Tamay, Diego Chi, Augustin Nanat, Victoriano Cruz, José Maria Day, Luciano Dib, Fernando Chan, Juan Balbine Uukul, Pedro Cupal, Estevan Cub, Pedro Han, Hilaria Cam, wife of Pedro Han, natives of Yucatan, who have come under engagements with Messrs. Goicouria Brothers to work in this island; and having asked each of them, through the aforesaid Don Ignacio Cámara, if they had come, engaged freely and willingly, to work in this island, they replied in the affirmative. Having asked them if any violence had been used towards them to bring them forcibly by means of threats, they replied, that no force or deceit had been used towards them, but that they were well contented and satisfied with the manner in which they had been engaged. Being asked if they were well treated and fed during the passage, they answered that Captain Dorantes had given them excellent treatment and plenty of food, so that they had absolutely nothing to complain of; and finally, having required the whole of the twenty-eight natives of Yucatan above mentioned, that if any one of them was dissatisfied, he would come forward and state it, so that he might be taken back to Yucatan, as the Supreme Government of the Republic would not that any force or deceit should be used towards any of them, they answered, that as they had no cause for complaint they were determined to remain and fulfil their engagements. With which this statement was concluded, and signed by us present, together with the undersigned Consul, at the date above mentioned.

True and exact copy of what is written in pages 65 and 66 of Book A, Protocols of this Consulate.

(Signed)

RAMON CARBALLO.

Havana, January 14, 1855.

No. 272.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th ultimo, inclosing a copy of Señor Bonilla's answer to the note which you had addressed to him respecting the 45 Yucatan prisoners who had been transported by the Governor of Yucatan from Merida to Havana, under the contract with the house of Goicouria and Co., and reporting that General Santa Anna has revoked that portion of the contract in question which relates to the Indian prisoners; and I have in reply to inform you, that I approve of the steps which you took on receiving the abovementioned note from Señor Bonilla.

I have at the same time to instruct you to convey to Señor Peon the thanks and acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for his efficacious intervention in this affair.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

MONTE VIDEO.

No. 273.

Consul Hunt to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15, 1855.)

My Lord,

Monte Video, November 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a translation of a note which has been addressed to me by the Brazilian Minister Plenipotentiary in this Republic, wherein he states that suspicions have been entertained by his Government that the Brazilian schooner "*Caprichosa*" is about to sail from Rio de Janeiro, bound for Monte Video, and that it is the intention of the owners to attempt to fit her out at this port with the appliances for a voyage to the coast of Africa in search of a cargo of slaves.

In my reply, a copy of which I also inclose, I have assured Señor Amaral that a strict watch would be kept on the movements of this vessel, and that any circumstances coming within the knowledge of Her Majesty's Agents in the River Plate, tending to confirm the suspicions entertained of the illegality of the proceedings of the "*Caprichosa*" would, in compliance with his request, be communicated to him without delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LENNON HUNT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 273.

Señor Amaral to Consul Hunt.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Monte Video, November 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Brazilian Empire has communicated to this Legation that suspicions are entertained that the Brazilian schooner "*Caprichosa*," about to leave Rio de Janeiro for the port of Monte Video, is intended to be fitted out in this port for a voyage to the coast of Africa in search of slaves.

Although this Legation has already taken the necessary steps in order that the said schooner may be examined and taken possession of should she prove to be destined for the Slave Trade, I have thought it proper to make you acquainted with these suspicions, and shall feel thankful for any information of which you may become possessed relative to this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DO AMARAL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 273.

Consul Hunt to Señor Amaral.

Sir,

Monte Video, November 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note that you addressed to me on the 21st instant, in which you were pleased to inform me that suspicions have been entertained by the Government of His Majesty the

Emperor of Brazil that an attempt is about to be made to fit out the Brazilian schooner "*Caprichosa*" in this port for a voyage to the coast of Africa in search of a cargo of slaves.

I beg to offer you my best thanks for this timely intelligence, and to assure you that I shall not fail to transmit for your information any circumstances which may come to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Agents in the River Plate tending to confirm the suspicions which are at present entertained of the illegal intentions of the owners or charterers of the "*Caprichosa*," in order that those designs may be frustrated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LENNON HUNT.

No. 274.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hunt.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of November last, inclosing a copy of a note which had been addressed to you by the Brazilian Minister at Monte Video, in which he gives information of the suspicious character of a Brazilian vessel, the "*Caprichosa*," which, it was supposed, her owners intended to fit out at Monte Video for a slave-trading expedition; and I have to state to you in reply, that I approve the answer which you returned to Señor Amaral's communication.

You will take an early opportunity of conveying to him the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the information so opportunely given to you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

PERSIA.

No. 275.

Mr. Thompson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, January 12, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident in the Persian Gulf respecting the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*," (referred to in my despatch of November 8, 1853,) together with a copy of my reply.

Captain Kemball having again complained of the conduct of the Persian Slave Trade Commissioner, and a report having been circulated in Bushire that it was the intention of the slave importers to obtain the connivance of the Prime Minister by offering to him one of the slaves in question, I brought both these circumstances before his Excellency, who, however, repudiated in strong terms the imputation of his having lent himself to such a proceeding. At my request a Vizirial letter has been addressed on the subject to Meerza Mahmood Khan, of which I beg leave to inclose a translation, instructing him to use every effort for effecting the seizure of the slaves, and threatening him with severe punishment, as well as dismissal from his post, in the event of his showing any remissness in the discharge of this duty.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 275.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, October 18, 1854.

WHEN about to close yesterday the present packet, I received a visit from Meerza Mahmood Khan, Persian Commissioner for the suppression of the Slave Trade, for the purpose of informing me that though now fully convinced, from the evidence adduced by me, of the importation of slaves in the buglah of Hajee Mahomed Baukir, as reported in my letter to your address of the 14th ultimo, he did not find himself in a position to compel their surrender at the hands of the influential parties to whom they were consigned, and into whose possession they have fallen.

Time will not admit, nor can it be necessary, that I should trouble you with copies and translations of the voluminous correspondence which passed between Meerza Mahmood Khan and myself before this result was obtained. He has assured me that he will by this opportunity lay all the circumstances of the case before his superiors at Tehran, and it may be sufficient therefore that I should furnish you with the depositions of the witnesses as per margin,* upon which his convictions like my own are founded.

I beg to observe that the first direct clue of which I could avail myself to elicit the above disclosures, was derived from the statement of one of the eight slaves brought up in the "*Mahmoodee*," whom, being a concubine and for some time domesticated with her master, it was not considered necessary to land at Nudukkoo,† and upon her statement was the nakhoda at length persuaded that a frank and full confession could alone prevent the forfeiture

* Zuhra, slave girl; Hajee Mahomed, Cheharshamba; Hajee Izossuf; Alee; Furruf; Zanhari; Jaafer.

† Berekhee was before mentioned as the place of disembarkation. The two villages are so closely situated to each other, as to render the destination immaterial.

of the recognizances into which he had entered of the seven slaves landed at Hudukkoo, one I find as having been for a considerable time the property of his master Abd'ulkaheem the son of Hajee Mahomed Shurreef is not liable to seizure. Upon the remaining six my claim is indisputable; but I incline to believe with Meerza Mahmood Khan that nothing short of the deputation of a Mohassil, or the receipt of a positive order from Tehran, will procure their delivery.

Hajee Abdul Mahomed and Hajee Mahomed Baukir the owner of these slaves having failed to prepare an Ishtishad Nameh, exonerating them from any complicity in the transaction, propose now, I am told, to avail themselves of the proffered advocacy of Meerza Reza the Wakayaa Nigar to screen them from the consequences of contravening the Shah's orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 275.

Mr. Thomson to Captain Kemball.

Sir,

Tehran, January 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copies of two vizirial letters, one to the Prince Governor of Fars and the other to Meerza Mahmood Khan, relative to the slaves which were imported in the ship "*Mahomedee*." In the latter you will observe that the Persian Slave Trade Commissioner is distinctly ordered to procure the slaves and to act in conformity with the stipulations of the Convention, and in the Vizirial letter, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch to you of the 20th of October, the Persian Ministers signified their intention of removing him from his post if he continued to show any remissness in executing the duty which has been confided to him. In their present communication that announcement is repeated with the addition that he will also be punished in some other manner, if the instructions of the Persian Government are not carried into effect by him; and I have to request that you will be so good as to make him understand clearly that I shall not fail to demand and insist on his dismissal if I should receive any further complaints from you regarding his conduct.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 275.

The Sedr Azim to Meerza Mahmoud Khan.

(Translation.)

January 7, 1854.

ON the 20th of October, I wrote to you that a buglah, belonging to Hajee Mahomed Bakir, with seven males and female slaves, had anchored in one of the ports of Tengistan, and had there got rid of the slaves. According to your duty, you commenced investigating the matter, and bound over the captain and crew of the vessel to pay a certain sum to the Government should the case be proved. The British Resident then desired you to administer an oath according to religious form by which they were to affirm that they had not embarked slaves, but you objected to do this,—for this reason, I wrote to you to administer the oath and terminate the affair in conformity with the Convention; and on the 30th of Sefer, it was also communicated to you, that it had been reported here, ~~that~~ the above vessel had been searched, but that no slaves were found in her. And also that the commander of the vessel, although he had previously denied that either he himself or the owner of the vessel, Hajee Mahomed Bakir, had imported slaves, had now, solely from vindictive feelings, accused the above owner of having imported slaves.

I now write to you that this commander deserves to be punished for having first of all denied the fact upon oath, and afterwards having admitted the reverse. You will make inquiries, and should it be founded on truth you will act according to the Convention and the instructions you have received.

Within the last few days I have again received communications from the English Mission to the effect that the above charge was well founded, and that the slaves were still there,—that one of the latter had been made a eunuch, and that moreover a report had been spread in these parts that I had desired one of them to be sent here for myself. This has caused me the greatest surprise, and I therefore deem it necessary to write to you distinctly that if, in truth, slaves were imported in the above vessel and can now be traced, you must without fail claim and seize them, and act in accordance with the stipulations of the Convention. As for myself, I am quite disgusted with slaves and eunuchs, and whoever has given out that I desired to have one of these slaves, has done wrong, for I would not consent that the slightest infraction of the Convention should take place.

If hereafter I should again perceive any remissness on your part in executing your duty, I will most certainly send a special agent to bring you here, and I will cause you to be severely punished. This is all that I have to say on the subject. Certainly be sure that you seize these slaves wherever they may be, and act up to the Articles of the Convention.

No. 276.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, January 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, announcing the steps he had taken for effecting the liberation of 70 slaves imported into the ports of Kelat and Charrack.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 276.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, November 7, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith for your information copy of a letter with its inclosures I have addressed this day to Commodore Robinson, acquainting him with the alleged importation of slaves into the ports of Charrack and Kelat, and indicating the steps to be adopted, with a view to effect their liberation.

In communicating this intelligence to Meerza Mahmood Khan, I proposed should he desire to associate one of his subordinates with the naval officer to be employed on the present service, to provide him with a passage on board a native vessel to Bassidore, where he would find the Honourable Company's brigantine "Tigris;" but such an arrangement the Persian Commissioner deemed superfluous, and preferred postponing his departure until the result of my requisition upon the chiefs of the ports in question being ascertained, the amount of fine can be determined to which the importers may be liable, and the usual steps be taken for its execution.

Assuming that no evasion will be practised to avoid the delivery of the slaves, I have made the necessary arrangements for their early transmission to Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 276.

Captain Kemball to Commodore Robinson.

Sir,

Bushire, November 7, 1853.

I HAVE received intelligence from the British Agent at Lingah to the effect that the Chief of Charrack having acknowledged the importation of (30) slaves into that place, he had called upon him to retain them in his custody pending the receipt of advices from me; considering it desirable that no time should be lost in emancipating these individuals, if really forthcoming, I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to issue instructions to the officer commanding the Honourable Company's brigantine "Tigris," to proceed to the port in question for the purpose of receiving charge of them, and conveying them to Bassadore. The accompanying communication to Mulla Ahmed directs him to attend Lieutenant Dakers on this service. I likewise inclose a letter to the address of the Chief of Charrack, announcing the object of his mission.

My requisition upon Sheikh Hassan ben Abd'ullah being restricted for the present to the delivery of the slaves, Meerza Mahmood Khan, the Persian Commissioner, has intimated to me his concurrence in the above arrangement, without deeming it necessary to depute one of his subordinates to assist in its execution. The matter of the fine to be exacted from the importer is left for after consideration.

You will observe from the inclosed translation of the agent's report, that in addition to the 30 individuals above mentioned, a free woman was decoyed on board the same vessel at the Island of Socotra, and was subsequently sold into slavery. I beg that she may be also afforded a passage to Bassadore preparatory to her being restored to her own country, unless she should express a wish to remain at Charrack.

In the removal of the slaves to the naval station, Lieutenant Dakers will exercise his own discretion with respect to receiving them on board of the "Tigris," or hiring a boat for their accommodation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received another communication from the Agent at Lingah, of which a translation is inclosed, reporting his having traced a further importation of 40 slaves in the buglah of one Abdul Hadee to the port of Kelat. The same course should be pursued by Lieutenant Dakers in this, as has been laid down for his guidance in the Charrack case. I inclose the requisite letters to Mullah Ahmed and the Chief of Kelat.

Inclosure 3 in No. 276.

Mullah Ahmed to Captain Kemball.

(Translation.)

October 16, 1853.

I AFORE wrote you regarding the slaves that were bought from Zanzibar to Charrack, the names of their owners, in what vessels imported, also that I had addressed a letter to Sheikh Nassan on the subject, but obtained no reply.

When the Commodore came to Bassadore I waited upon him there, and told him that slaves had been brought to Charrack, that I had written regarding them to Sheikh Hassan ben Abd'ullah, but received no answer. I also told him that they (the people of Charrack, did not wish me to visit their port. The Commodore directed me to proceed to the spot for the purpose of investigating the matter; I accordingly returned to Lingah and thence embarked for Charrack.

On arrival I called upon the Sheikh in hopes of ascertaining from his own mouth the particulars of the affair. He confessed unto me that slaves to the number of thirty had been brought into his country by the people of Charrack in the buglah of one Hassan Abd'ullah. Having heard the above acknowledgment from the Sheikh himself, I told him to keep them all in custody until I had informed the Resident, and received his instructions regarding them.

While with the Sheikh I also heard that one of the people of Batinah, called Humud, had come as a passenger in the same buglah from Zanzibar, and, on reaching Socotra, had taken unto himself a wife in the island, whom he put on board. During the voyage he sold her for a small sum to a native of Lar called Sapoorah.

The latter party again on reaching Charrack disposed of her for thirty dollars to Khaefan ben Abd'ullah ben Ahmed. She was a freed-woman. I told the Sheikh therefore that he must seize and retain her in his own house, pending receipt of orders from the Resident.

Inclosure 4 in No. 276.

Mullah Ahmed to Captain Kemball.

(Translated Extracts.)

Lingah, October 27, 1853.

I BEG to inform you that Abd'ul Hadee Humadee, concerning whom I afore wrote, has brought in his buglah from Zanzibar 40 slaves, and landed them at Geo; his boat has he drawn up on the hard; thence he went to Kelat. I informed Sheikh Hassan ben Abd'ullah Governor of Charrack of this matter, when I was with him. He replied: "True, the above individual dwelled in my territories in former days, but on return from the Sowahil, he went to reside for some time in the Island of Geo, and after that proceeded to live amongst the people of his own tribe the Beni Numad; I have no authority over him." Up to the present moment Abd'ool Hadee is at Kelat with his buglah; the slaves he brought therein are also with him.

No. 277.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 15, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of January last, and its inclosures, on the subject of the seven slaves landed near Bushire from the "*Mahmoodee*," under the circumstances reported in your despatch of the 8th November, 1853; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having requested the Prime Minister of the Shah to address a further Vizirial letter to the Persian Slave Trade Commissioner, respecting his neglect of duty in having hitherto failed to procure the liberation of the slaves in question, and the punishment of the parties concerned in their importation.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 278.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 17, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 17th of January last, inclosing a copy of a despatch which you had received from Captain Kemball, the East India Company's Resident in the Persian Gulf, reporting the steps

which he had taken to procure the liberation of 70 slaves recently landed in the ports of Kelat and Charrack, and the punishment of the persons concerned in their importation; and I have in reply to instruct you to convey to Captain Kemball my entire approval of his proceedings in this affair.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 279.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, May 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch I have received from Captain Kemball, and translations of a further correspondence which I have had with the Persian Government relative to the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*."

Your Lordship will perceive that I have been unable to obtain a third Vizirial letter, which I had hoped would have enabled me to produce the slaves.

I am of opinion that the refusal of the Persian Government to give this document is in consequence of some of the Chief Ministers having received a bribe, either in cash or in slaves, and I believe that they have issued orders to the authorities in Bushire to beware of giving rise to a similar correspondence in future by allowing an importation of this nature to be repeated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 279.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, February 13, 1854.

I REGRET to inform you that the Vizirial letters, of which transcripts were inclosed in your despatch of the 10th ultimo, have failed to procure the liberation of the slaves imported in the "*Mahmoodee*."

The accompanying copies and translations of two communications addressed by me to Meerza Mahmood Khan will acquaint you with the only steps which, in addition to verbal remonstrance, I have been able to take on the spot, in order to give weight to the ostensible instructions of the Persian Ministers. That they should have remained without effect is to be attributed probably to some secret intimation from the same quarter, which emboldened Hajee Abdul Mahomed to disregard a private understanding between the Persian Commissioner and myself, suggested by the difficult and delicate position of that officer, that, provided the slaves were at once sent back to Tungistan, to be thence reclaimed, I would, so far as depended on me, ignore his complicity in the matter.

Except in so much as he was wanting in energy at the outset, I confess I am not disposed to attach any great degree of blame to Meerza Mahmood Khan for the ill success of this issue. In a case like the present, he certainly does not possess the means of enforcing his authority, while, on the other hand, at his interviews with me, though apparently sensible of the effects of your displeasure, he candidly avowed the dilemma in which he was placed, and seemed impressed with the conviction that any urgency on his part would no less expose him to the resentment of his immediate superiors. The hints he threw out that the Persian Ministers manifestly favoured the evasion of Hajee Abdul Mahomed, and thereby furnished a cue for his own behaviour, even to the extent of denying all knowledge of the slaves, convinced me of the futility of his cooperation.

It is nevertheless, I submit, highly desirable that the authorities at the

capital should vindicate their sincerity on the present occasion in accordance with the spirit of the existing Convention. I am in a position to state that the slaves in question were, up to a very late date, and I believe still are, in the house of Hajee Abdul Mahomed. The result of this prosecution is doubtless narrowly watched by all parties interested in the future operation of the Treaty, and finally I should observe that impunity to the offenders will no less afford encouragement to others than it will be interpreted by the Sheikhs of Zingah, Moogoo, Kelat and Charrack, as an injustice done to themselves. Although proof be wanting of the fact, there is room for suspicion that the contumacy of the last-mentioned Chief, as reported in my despatch of the 12th ultimo, may be ascribed to his experience of the progress of this case, if not to some secret advice from the persons concerned in it.

Lest the evidence already supplied should have failed to convince the Persian Ministers of the alleged importation, I beg to hand you herewith an original letter to my address from Hajee Mahomed Shereef, the consignee of a domesticated slave (the concubine of his son), brought up last season in the "*Mahmoodee*," and of a boy (likewise domesticated), the property of the same person, who was shipped as her attendant on board of that vessel. The statement of Hajee Mahomed Shereef is supported by the usual letters of advice, and by the depositions of the nakhoda (master) and of the woman abovementioned. You will observe that he is himself no further interested in the fate of the slaves than that he is anxious to recover the boy in question, who, having been landed with the others at Barekkec, was put out of the way to prevent my obtaining his testimony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 279.

Captain Kemball to Meerza Mahmood Khan.

(Translation.)

January 30, 1854.

ON several occasions have letters passed between us on the subject of the liberation by you of a number of slaves imported into these ports in the buglah "*Mahmoodee*," belonging to Hajee Mahomed Baukir. The settlement and adjustment of the affair you deferred and caused to stand over, pending the receipt of instructions from the capital regarding it. Behold now, in the packet just arrived from the British Minister at Tehran, have I received copy of a communication addressed to yourself by the Sadr Azim on this particular subject. Transcript thereof I beg to inclose for your perusal, although no doubt the document has been transmitted to you in the original.

An order to the above effect having been issued, it behoves me to write these few lines, and inquire what plans you have in view, and how you intend acting in the matter? Be so kind as to send for my information, a full, clear, and categorical answer.

Inclosure 3 in No. 279.

Captain Kemball to Meerza Mahmood Khan.

(Translation.)

February 3, 1854.

ADVERTING to my note of the 30th January, I beg to acknowledge your message of this day, to the effect that you have failed by persuasion and threats to induce Hajee Abdul Mahomed to surrender the slaves imported in the buglah "*Mahmoodee*," and, having exhausted these means, that you are not in a position to compel their surrender. There is but one inference to be drawn from your repeated assurances to me prior to the receipt of orders from Tehran, and the lukewarmness you have since exhibited. The question being, however, one of the breach of a solemn Convention between two States it, remains to be seen in what light the contumacy of Hajee Abdul Mahomed

will now be viewed by higher authority. If he entertain the belief that Her Majesty's Minister will countenance a proceeding, the effect of which must be to render the engagement in question a dead letter, he is certainly mistaken.

Inclosure 4 in No. 279.

Hajee Mahomed Shereef to Captain Kemball.

(Translation.)

October 19, 1853.

I BEG to represent that your servant, my son, consigned to me a female slave, his concubine, and with child by him, from Hodeidah in the buglah "*Mahmoodee*," and with her a slave, also a long time in his possession, to attend upon her, under charge of the nakhoda (master) of the vessel, Hajee Mahomed Chehar Shambah. On the arrival of the said buglah at Bushire, the female slave came to hand, but the male slave they did not deliver to me. I appealed to the nakhoda several times, who informed me that he had landed him on the coast of Tungistan, together with the other slaves who were with him in the vessel. Now a considerable time has elapsed and I see no signs of the slave and as the buglah is under British colours, I have thought it necessary to represent the case to you who are one of a people disposed to justice.

(Signed) MAHOMED SHEREEF.

Inclosure 5 in No. 279.

Mr. Thomson to Sedr Azim.

(Translation.)

April 27, 1854.

I HAVE on numerous occasions urged the Minister for Foreign Affairs as well as your Excellency, to issue a third Vizirial letter with reference to the slaves which were imported in the vessel named "*Mahmoodee*," the two previous ones having been of no use whatever, for reasons which I have some reason to believe your Excellency, upon instituting a rigid inquiry, may have it in your power to ascertain. The circumstances connected with this importation, which have been communicated to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to your Excellency also, leave no doubt that the slaves were actually imported in the "*Mahmoodee*," and they also prove the shameful means which have been practised at Bushire to conceal them, and to evade the orders which His Majesty the Shah, with the view of causing this Traffic to cease, has issued. It is therefore absolutely necessary that the Persian Government should take all the steps in its power for the production of the slaves in question, in order that it may become patent to all that it is their firm intention to put an end to this infamous Traffic, and thereby relieve themselves from even a shadow of imputation that the evasion of His Majesty's orders has been connived at by them.

I have, therefore, to make a distinct request that a third Vizirial letter shall be issued, couched in such peremptory terms as to prevent any underhand attempt at evasion of its purport on the part of interested persons in Bushire, and empowering a Mohessil to be appointed by Captain Kemball, the Resident at Bushire, to use every means to follow up the track of the slaves in question. No doubt a Vizirial letter of this nature will be issued without delay by your Excellency, and with a document of this nature I am inclined to hope that, notwithstanding the long period of time which has elapsed since this matter was brought to your Excellency's notice, and the remissness which has been shown at Bushire by those Persian authorities who ought to have exerted themselves faithfully in the duty which has been confided to them, the obstacles may be removed by which your Excellency's two former letters on this subject were rendered of no effect. I also trust that as my messenger is on the point of being dispatched to Bushire, your Excellency will issue the instructions to whomsoever necessary, that the above Vizirial letter may reach me without any further delay.

Inclosure 6 in No. 279.

The Sedr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

May 2, 1854.

IN your letter of the 27th April, you requested that a third Vizirial letter should be issued by the Persian Ministers with reference to the vessel named "*Mahmoodee*," with the pretext that the two previous ones had been of no use whatever. Indeed, at several interviews you had represented this circumstance verbally before, and the Persian Ministers acquainted you with the substance of the letters from Meerza Mahmood Khan, Assistant Secretary to the Foreign Office, and who is specially employed in putting a stop to the maritime importation of slaves, and with the trustworthy testimony of the notables of Bushire, stating clearly that the necessary investigations had been made, and that nothing had appeared to prove the correctness of those documents; that, on the contrary, it was ascertained that the nakhoda of that Baghala, after having asserted that no slaves whatever had been imported in the "*Mahmoodee*," had, on a second occasion, out of spite and enmity towards Hajee Mohammed Bahir, cast this imputation on him, in order to entangle him in difficulties. How, then, can it be said that the previous orders had remained fruitless?

You remarked that the Persian Ministers, by producing the slaves in question, would show clearly to the world that it is their firm intention to put an end to this infamous Traffic. But with the exertions of Meerza Mahmood Khan, with four assistants, however, for the special purpose of putting a stop to this trade, in conformity with the instructions issued by the Persian Ministers, and the fulfilment of the clauses therein contained, what necessity is there for further proofs as to their intentions? Indeed, it was only the other day that a fine was levied in this sense by the Persian Commissioner,—a fact which will no doubt be reported in full detail to you by the Resident in Bushire. It is hardly fair that, for an imputation made by the nakhoda, whose interested motives and falsehood have become palpable to our employés, and have likewise been attested by the trustworthy declarations of the inhabitants of that coast, notwithstanding those inhabitants have been kept in a state of fear and alarm, with the orders of the Persian Ministers pending over them for a period of eight months, they should have yet another order issued against their peace and tranquillity, and thus be kept in a still further state of excitement and anxiety without rhyme or reason. Besides, in accordance with the stipulations of the friendly Convention entered into, it is on board of Her Majesty's vessels that the employés of this Government are enjoined to make their researches, and thus in person to put in practice their orders, not on land. Nor, after eight months' investigation, does it appear possible, without the use of measures in themselves unjust and tyrannical, to take any further steps for the proof of these assertions. Still those stringent instructions enjoining our Commissioner not to be remiss in his duty, have never been, and shall never be, withheld. You are perfectly acquainted yourself with the state of this country, especially with the character of the Arab population of that part of the coast. Their wild condition will not admit of our treating them with uncalled-for roughness, without bringing about a revolution in the country, simply to show, in an affair already passed and forgotten, proved to be without foundation or common sense, and in which strong measures are not necessary, that the Ministers of this Government are firm in their intention of putting an end to this infamous Traffic.

It is evident that, as they have done up to this day, they will still hereafter persevere, and issue stronger and more stringent orders in these affairs.

Inclosure 7 in No. 279.

Mr. Thomson to the Sedr Azim.

(Translation.)

May 7, 1854.

THE substance of your Excellency's letter of the 4th instant, in reply to my communication relative to the necessity of producing the concealed slaves, caused me great surprise; for notwithstanding the testimony of so many persons to the effect that slaves had indeed been imported in the "*Mahmoodee*," and that at variance with the orders of His Majesty the Shah they had been secreted on the coast of the Persian Gulf, the Persian Ministers persist still in considering these facts as groundless and unmeaning, and attribute the non-fulfilment of their previous orders and Vizirial letters to this circumstance. In order, however, that in addition to the testimony already given, there may be for the Persian Ministers a further proof on this head, I have the honour to forward to your Excellency copy of a letter from a merchant of Bushire, for whom 2 slaves had been embarked on the "*Mahmoodee*."

When the Persian Ministers view the shameful manner in which certain authorities at Bushire have prevented the former Vizirial letters from being acted upon, they will not fail to see how necessary it is that they should clear themselves from the imputation which such conduct will naturally give rise to. I have pointed out the mode by which there is every probability of the slaves being produced; and if the Persian Ministers continue to refuse that means being employed, I am forced to conclude that it is their wish that the offenders should be screened; and they must be sensible, when this Government itself shows an inclination to protect persons who have so flagrantly disobeyed their own orders, that it is offering to others an encouragement, which will not fail of being followed, to imitate their example.

Under such circumstances, I have to request that you will issue a third Vizirial letter of the nature described in my letter of the 30th of April, in order that, as a long time has elapsed since this matter was first brought to your Excellency's notice, there may be no further delay, and by being sent to me this affair may be concluded a moment sooner.

No. 280.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, May 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch I have received from Captain Kemball, the Resident in the Persian Gulf, regarding a visit which he had received from the Sheikh of Charrack, and reporting that that person had given a written engagement, binding himself to deliver up the 10 slaves which were in his possession, to detain the importing vessels, and to comply implicitly in future with the stipulations of the Slave Trade Convention between Great Britain and Persia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 280.

Translation of a written promise furnished by Sheikh Hassan bin Abdullah, Governor of Charrack, to the Resident in the Persian Gulf.

MY object in writing these lines is (to make it known), that I, Hassan bin Abdullah, bin Abdul Rahman, Governor of Charrack, in accordance with (the terms of) an agreement entered into with the Resident and Meerza Mahmood Khan, do hereby promise and pledge myself to hand over, without demur or excuse, the 10 slaves that are in my possession, to any one of the deputies of

Meerza Mahmood Khan, who may arrive for the purpose of receiving them. Further, with respect to the two buglahs, wherein the slaves were imported the one belonging to Abdool Hadee, the other to Hassan Abdullah, they shall both be answered for and detained by me until such time as an order from the Supreme (Persian) Government be issued regarding them ; and whensoever a deputy of Meerza Mahmood Khan's arrives, I will strictly act up to, and faithfully comply with, the (spirit of the) order that may have been issued ; also, if at any future period any one of my subjects or dependents be found guilty of transporting or dealing with slaves, such act being contrary to the Convention existing between Great Britain and Persia, then do I engage and acknowledge that agreeably to the rules of the exalted Government, the stipulated penalties, whether as regards fine or chastisement, shall be fully inflicted, and in nowise shall any excuse be attended to.

These few lines have I penned by way of engagement.

Dated 13th Jemadee-oes sanee, 1270.
13th March, 1854.

Inclosure 2 in No. 280.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, March 15, 1854.

I AM happy to acquaint you that since the date of my letter of 12th January last, Sheikh Hassan bin Abdullah, the Chief of Charrack, has visited Bushire for the purpose of discussing his responsibility on account of the slaves lately imported into his dependencies. On his arrival he at once repaired to the house of my Arabic Meerza, where he took up his abode during his stay.

At a first interview with me, Sheikh Hassan denied absolutely that any slaves had been brought to his territory. With some inconsistency he complained warmly of the hardship and unfairness of his being alone brought to account while every other tribe in the Gulf—and he enumerated several vessels trading between Lingah and Zanzibar—had been permitted to land its consignments with impunity ; and he urged that the whole charge against his people was a calumny invented by Mooila Ahmed, our Agent, to gratify a feeling of animosity towards himself ; but on my remarking that the evidence which had been adduced in the shape of the nakhoda's confession, the admissions previously made by himself, and the presence of the woman at his port who had been kidnapped from Socotra on the same occasion, was too strong to be subverted by his mere assertion ; and on my reminding him that continued contumacy on his part must deprive him of all claim to leniency, while a disposition to atone for his fault would on the contrary entitle him to the benefit of my advocacy with higher authority, he at length modified his former denial by declaring the alleged number of slaves to be grossly exaggerated, and by assuring me that of those actually landed the major portion had been immediately transported beyond the limits of his control either into the interior or to ports on the opposite coast. In short, on being farther pressed, he affirmed that ten only of the slaves in question were now forthcoming, and would be delivered on demand ; but for the rest, his town, his boats, and all he possessed, were at the mercy of the two Governments, to be dealt with as they might think proper.

Conceiving that the liberation of these slaves, whether regarded in the light of an example, or as affecting the condition of the individuals themselves, must be not less desirable than the payment of a proportionate fine, I had no hesitation in suggesting to Meerza Mahmood Khan, that the tender of the number stated should be accepted, though, not to deviate from the terms of the penalty originally proposed, this arrangement might involve an abatement of the Sheikh's personal liability corresponding to their value, which we estimated at ten tomans per head. From the inclosed copy and translation of a written security furnished by Sheikh Hassan, you will observe that this course was adopted by the Persian Commissioner, otherwise that the disposal of the offending vessels or the punishment of their owners remains as before to be determined at Tehran.

The balance due by the Chief of Carrack is thus reduced to fifty tomans ; but considering that his present subservience has precluded a recourse to coercive

measures, it might not be impolitic, perhaps, to forego also its exaction, provided the engagements he has contracted be punctually fulfilled, and so long as the pledge he has given on the part of himself and his dependents to abstain from engaging hereafter in the forbidden Traffic be not violated.

The reproach of partiality and unfairness, which certainly attaches to us in the eyes of Arabs, for the immunity from responsibility hitherto enjoyed by slavers from the opposite coast, will serve, I trust, to excuse the lenity I may appear to have exercised in an undue degree towards the Chief of Charrack. I have, however, duly warned him that a repetition of his offence will be visited with all the penalties specified in the Persian Convention, and the steps to be taken this year for enforcing the provisions of our Treaties with the tribes of Oman, will doubtless justify in future a fuller measure of severity with respect to the Persian ports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

No. 281.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 14, 1854

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd of May last, reporting that Captain Kemball had failed to procure the liberation of the slaves imported into Bushire by the ship "*Mahmoodee*," and inclosing copies of a further correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Persian Minister respecting these slaves.

I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your proceedings in this matter; and I have to desire that, if on the receipt of this despatch, you shall not have received a satisfactory answer to the last note which you addressed to the Persian Minister on the 7th of May, you will make a fresh application to his Excellency on the part of Her Majesty's Government, requiring that the slaves shall be produced, and that the Persian Government shall insist upon their own orders being obeyed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 282.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 15, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th of May last, inclosing a copy of a written engagement which had been entered into with Her Majesty's Resident at Bushire, by Sheikh Hassan bin Abdullah, the Governor of Charrack, promising to deliver up 10 slaves who had been recently imported into his territories, and pledging himself to observe faithfully for the future the stipulations of the Convention between Great Britain and Persia for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I have, in reply, to desire that you will instruct Captain Kemball to take means of informing the Sheikh of Charrack that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction the engagement he has entered into, and hope that he will faithfully adhere to it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 283.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Camp, near Tehran, June 16, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, announcing the seizure and despatch to Bombay of 2 slaves, who had been smuggled into Lingah.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure in No. 283.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of two letters* addressed by me to Commodore Robinson, regarding the liberation of 2 slaves, a boy and a girl, each about eight years old, who were sold at Lingah to some natives of India, touching at that port on their way to Bushire and Turkish Arabia.

It would seem that Abdul Nebbec, after obtaining possession of the slaves in question, instead of conveying them direct to Bassidore, carried them to Lingah, where he left them in the charge of the British Agent, and thence proceeded to wait in person on Commodore Robinson, in the hope of prevailing upon that officer to relinquish them in his hands. Commodore Robinson, however, directed the agent to forward them to Bushire, where they arrived on the 2nd instant, and having now been made over to me by the Persian Commissioner they will be forwarded by the steamer "Ajdaha," expected to leave this port in the course of a few days.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

No. 284.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 6.)

My Lord,

Camp, near Tehran, September 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that although the Persian Minister had at my urgent request issued a third Vizirial letter instructing the authorities of Fars to investigate the affair of the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*," and, in the event of their importation being established, to take measures for their being produced, I did not transmit that document to Sheeraz, as I was of opinion it was so worded that no satisfactory result would be obtained from it.

On the receipt, therefore, of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th of July, I made a fresh application, as instructed therein, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, requiring that the slaves should be produced, and that the Persian Government should insist upon their orders being obeyed: and I have the honour to inclose translations of the further correspondence which has passed between me and the Sedr Azim on this subject. No reply has yet been received to my letter, Inclosure No. 3, but I have received a verbal message from the Sedr Azim, in which he promises in the most distinct terms that the slaves will be produced, and the importers made an example of, as soon as the state of affairs in the Persian Gulf will admit of forcible measures being adopted against them; but that for the present he must be held excused if the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, which he is most anxious to meet, are not at once complied with.

* Not received August 3, 1854.

I am fully of opinion that the Sedr Azim means to put in execution the promise he has just given ; and as I am of opinion that it will be found eventually that the real importer of the slaves is a person who possesses great influence among the Chiefs on the shores of the Gulf, and therefore has it in his power to direct that influence against the Government, it is my intention not to press the Government too hard for the present, but to do so as soon as a better degree of order exists in the Gulf, if they should then show any disinclination to fulfil their promise. I trust your Lordship will not disapprove of my acting in the manner I propose doing.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 284.

Mr. Thomson to the Sedr Azim.

September 13, 1854.

DURING several months past, I have been under the necessity of repeatedly writing to your Highness regarding the slaves imported into Persia in the buglah "*Mahmoodée*." In this matter, the Persian Ministers issued two Vizirial letters to the Prince Governor of Fars instructing His Royal Highness to find out and deliver over the slaves in question, and to punish and fine the persons by whom they had been imported. But either in consequence of the style of language in which those letters were couched, or from the negligence and remissness of the Prince to whom they were addressed, not only was no result obtained, but latterly the persons who imported them have had the presumption to boast of their success in evading the orders which their own Government had issued prohibiting this nefarious Traffic by sea.

In the last communication I had the honour to address to your Highness, I stated, that if the Persian Ministers were to issue an order to the Governor of Fars to appoint a Mohessil to act in concert with another Mohessil named by the British Resident in Bushire in tracing the slaves, they would, I felt convinced, be forthcoming. But instead of this, your Highness sent me a Vizirial letter of nearly the same import as the two which preceded it ; and as I feel assured that the dispatch of a letter of this nature would be fruitless, I have the honour to return it herewith to your Highness.

As I have reported to the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the whole of the correspondence which had passed on this subject, I have now received from his Lordship an instruction to the following effect, that my proceedings in this matter had been approved, and that if on the receipt of the above despatch I had not received a satisfactory answer to the last note I had addressed to the Persian Government on the 7th of May, I should make a fresh application to your Highness on the part of Her Majesty's Government, requiring that the slaves should be produced, and that the Persian Government should insist upon their own orders being obeyed.

Now this instruction having been received by me, it is my duty after representing this circumstance to the Persian Government, to insist that they shall issue, as early as is possible, the most peremptory orders to whomsoever they may judge it expedient, that these slaves shall be produced and handed over to the British Resident at Bushire ; and I feel persuaded, that if the Persian Government were to issue a peremptory order on this subject, stipulating that if by such a time these slaves are not produced in the place which has been appointed for their delivery, he will be considered culpable and punished accordingly, the slaves will be produced by the appointed day in whatever part of Persia they may at the present moment be.

Inclosure 2 in No. 284.

The Sedr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

September 14, 1854.

I HAVE received your* letter of yesterday's date and understood its contents.

Although I had formerly forwarded to you a letter to the address of the Prince Governor of Fars, containing explanations on this subject and instructions for carrying into execution the stipulations of the Convention, you have thought right to return it to me in your note without sending it to its destination or waiting to see the result, saying, that you felt persuaded that no good result would be produced by its transmission. I have, therefore, the honour to acquaint you, in reply, that the Persian Ministers have always, so long as it was in their power, agreed to all the requests made by your mission, and you yourself are well aware that in this matter in particular very strenuous exertions have been made, and on several occasions numerous orders have been issued. But at the present moment, for certain reasons which I mentioned verbally to you, it is impossible and out of the power of the Persian Ministers to issue any commands to the Arabs in the Persian Ports of the Gulf. It is necessary that a little patience should be exercised until the present obstacles be removed, when our exertions will be renewed, and, whatever letters or orders are required for enforcing the stipulations of the Convention, will be, without any neglect or objection, issued. Although there has been not the slightest remissness in this affair heretofore, and investigations have been carried to the utmost in a way that it has been established that no case such as the alleged has occurred, still, when the times admit, further efforts will be made.

Inclosure 3 in No. 284.

Mr. Thomson to the Sedr Azim.

(Translation.)

September 16, 1854.

I HAVE received your Highness's letter relative to the slaves imported in the "*Mahmoodee*." You therein stated that you did not object to the renewal of exertions for their recovery; and I perceive with the highest satisfaction that the Persian Ministers seem earnestly disposed to bring this affair to a conclusion.

With regard, however, to deferring the execution of their orders for a future period, it is my duty to observe to your Highness that if the Persian Ministers give this matter a little reflection, they will find that it is an affair which does not concern the Arabs, nor is it necessary to postpone it. This much is requisite, that the Persian Ministers give such orders as will convince their servants of their determination to recover the slaves. It appears to me that the simplest way of attaining this object is to require that the person who has dared in this matter to infringe the orders of his Sovereign be made to produce the slaves; he undoubtedly is informed where the slaves are; if he has confided them to the care of any person, he can recover them from him; and if they are otherwise disposed of, the persons whose property they have become, have only to restore them and claim the amount they paid for them. I therefore request that the Persian Ministers will issue immediate orders for producing the above slaves and not listen to further excuses and pretexts, and thus satisfy the demand of the British Government.

* The title of "*Jerat*" is given in this and all subsequent letters.

No. 285.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of September, respecting the affair of the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodée*," and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the note which you addressed to the *Sedr Azim* on the 16th of September, and the course which you state that you intend to take with regard to this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 286.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 10.)

My Lord,

Tehran, October 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information, translations of a further correspondence I have had with the Persian Prime Minister regarding the surrender of the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodée*."

Although the Persian Government assume the position that slaves once landed in Persia, are not, by the terms of the Convention between the two countries, liable to seizure, they say that they have no objection to issue fresh orders to ascertain if the importation really took place; but that they are prevented from taking those steps at the present moment on account of the disturbed state of affairs in the ports of the Persian Gulf. As I am given to understand there is every probability that the Governor of Bushire would be unable to give effect at the present moment to the orders he might receive from the Government, and, as I have already reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 21st of September, the Prime Minister has also verbally promised to do all in his power to recover the slaves, I have thought it more judicious not to insist on their adopting immediate measures, but I have signified to them that I expect the Government will, within three months from this date, place me in the position of being able to report to your Lordship that the wishes of the British Government on this head have been fulfilled.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 286.

The Sedr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

September 22, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 16th of September, regarding the "*Mahmoodée*." You have stated therein that you desired the Persian Ministers should issue peremptory orders and require these slaves to be produced by their own servants; the other remarks you made do not require to be repeated by me in this letter.

I beg to reply that the perusal of your note has caused the greatest surprise to the Persian Ministers, because from the manner in which it was worded it would appear that you believed the truth of the importation of the slaves in the above vessel to have been established, and that the only thing wanted was that the Persian Ministers should issue an order; while, after the correspondence which has already taken place on this subject, and the documents produced as evidence and forwarded to you, there is no room for your entertaining any doubts that this accusation has been brought forward without any foundation, and that there is no truth in it. The Persian Ministers have reason to know that their subject is without guilt, and this ought to be considered sufficient; besides, in the Convention which the Persian Ministers, solely to give satisfaction to the English Government, gave at Ispahan regarding slaves, in no way is it specified that the right of search is to be in force on land, nor are the masters of slaves in the interior of the country to be called to account. This right is solely applicable to the search of ships at sea, which is clearly proved by the instructions given to the Meerza Mahmood Khan (Persian Slave Trade Commissioner), and the nomination of four other subordinate officers to accompany that person. But merely on account of the friendly request made by you, and without its being a right to which you were entitled, the Persian Ministers stated that they would not object to another investigation and search being made on the subject, although they could not do so at the present moment on account of the disturbed state of the ports in the Gulf, and the confusion prevailing amongst the Arabs and distressed merchants of the country, because it would have the effect of increasing the estrangement now existing (between these people and the Government) and of rendering them more intractable.

Notwithstanding all this, it is strange, in the first place, that you should listen to the statement of the master of the vessel "*Mahmoodee*," a man who is well known to be interested in the matter and without character, and that you should consider as valueless the accurate information possessed by the Persian Ministers, and the statement of their officers together with the documents which have been produced in evidence. And, secondly, that although you and the English authorities are perfectly well acquainted with the disorders in the gulf in its fullest details, you should propose that an order should be issued which would add to the distress of the inhabitants of the ports.

If you are desirous that another effort should be made in inquiring into and searching, at all events it must be after tranquillity has been established in these ports; and this renewal of the search must not be considered to confer any right for the future further than the right stipulated in the Convention. At this time, on all these grounds, the Persian Ministers must certainly be held excused. The traders and merchants who are looking for help to this Government, cannot have an order of this kind imposed upon them and distress brought upon them, for it would be foreign to the rules of justice and equity.

Inclosure 2 in No. 286.

Mr. Thomson to the Sedr Azim.

(Translation.)

September 25, 1854.

I HAVE received your Highness's letter regarding the slaves imported in the "*Mahmoodee*."

With regard to what is therein stated, that the disturbances in the ports of the Gulf would not allow investigation to be made, or this matter to be terminated, I am not ignorant of some of the ports in the Persian Gulf being in a state of disorder; but after examining the matter in every point of view, I am totally at a loss to discover what connection this affair of the slaves can have with the disturbed state of these ports. The fact of this importation having actually taken place has been established in such a way that there is no room for denying

it; but as the Persian Ministers have requested some delay in carrying out the matter, although my belief still is, as I formerly stated, that if the Persian Government desired peremptorily to have these slaves produced, it might be effected in a very short space of time, in order that it may be made clear for every one whether the Persian Ministers exert themselves to fulfil the engagement they have made in this matter to the extent which they ought or not, I will not for the present take any further steps, but I shall expect that in the space of three months the Persian Ministers will supply me with documentary proof that this request which has been made by the British Ministers to those of the Shah has been brought to a satisfactory termination, so that I may have it in my power to convey the announcement of it to my Government. I will only add, that should this not have been done within the term specified, which is amply sufficient for concluding the affair with perfect facility, I shall then be obliged to attribute the failure to the want of exertion and inclination of the Persian Ministers themselves, and I shall then report that such is the case to my Government. I am sanguine, however, that by the efforts which the Persian Ministers will make, I shall be enabled to report the matter to the British Government as terminated satisfactorily.

Inclosure 3 in No. 286.

The Sedr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

October 13, 1854.

I HAVE received your letter regarding the "*Mahmoodee*," and I have understood its contents perfectly. This time the surprise felt by the Persian Ministers has been augmented by the contents of your last communication on this subject, at your, without any right, specifying a time for arranging this business. It is clear that you did not peruse my former letter properly, for the answer is not relevant to the question, and if you will again refer to it, this will be perceived by you, that it is stated therein that according to the stipulations of the Convention regarding Slaves which was agreed to by this Government merely to gratify the British Ministers, you have no right to say anything about slaves when they are on the land, or to make any communication about them. From Bushire to Meshed, and throughout Persia, there are numbers of slaves to be found, but no one has any right to make any remonstrance about one of them, or to make any inquiry as to when they came from the sea. The Convention has reference solely to the sea, and on this account was Meerza Mahmood Khan with several subordinates appointed to their posts.

If the Persian Ministers have before now, on two occasions, as the times allowed and they found it convenient, at your friendly request, made investigations, although strict inquiries had been previously instituted which proved that there was no foundation for the accusation, there can be no room for considering as insufficient the accurate knowledge which the Persian Ministers have acquired (on the subject) and which is quite sufficient in all matters concerning the internal affairs of the kingdom, and for advancing such a peremptory demand with the time specified as if all the right were on your side.

Although the Persian Ministers do not consider you to have any claim to the matter for the above reasons, and do not in any way consent to the term being specified, still, as friendship demands, they do not object, whenever the time is favourable, to renew the investigation, although they feel persuaded that the importation never took place, ample proofs being in their possession, of which copies have been sent to you already.

No. 287.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of October, stating that you considered it inexpedient to insist upon the adoption by the Persian Government of immediate measures for the recovery of the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*," and I have to acquaint you that I approve of the view which you have taken of this matter, and of the note which you addressed thereupon to the *Sedr Azim* on the 25th of September.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

PERU.

No. 288.

Mr. Sullivan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lima, November 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a translation of a Decree of the President of Peru, of the 19th of November last, offering great advantages to all those who will enlist for the purpose of forming a Corps of Reserve. The Decree proceeds to state, that all the domestic slaves and those at present employed on farms, may receive their own freedom and that of their wives, if they consent to serve for two years.

The Decree abovementioned is a heavy blow to that system of slavery which has hitherto been carried on throughout Peru; but as the compensation to be granted to the slave-owners is more apparent than real, the landed proprietors, who are all slave-owners, are on this account much enraged against the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. SULLIVAN.

Inclosure in No. 288.

Decree.

(Translation.)

MANUEL SUAREZ, General of Brigade of the National Army, Prefect and Commandant-General of the Department, &c.

Considering :—

That the authorities are bound to cooperate to the utmost with the legitimate President of the Republic in his endeavours to save the institutions of the country, with this object the Government have issued the following Decree :

José Rufino Echenique, President of the Republic, &c.

Considering :—

1st. That it is the duty of the Government to secure the triumph of the institutions of the country and of social order, by the adoption of all the measures which may be necessary to preserve the Republic against any future event which may take place, and to prevent in any case that rebellion and anarchy should predominate.

2nd. That to this end it is necessary to raise and organize an army of reserve.

3rd. That if in the present great crisis in the country, which threatens its laws, its political existence for the future, and its independence, supreme and conservative measures are needed, it is requisite to reconcile them with other social wants, which remedy humanity and the progress of the age demand in making the first preparations for the manumission of the slaves, which later will become more general.

In virtue of the extraordinary powers conceded to me, I decree :

Art. 1. Every soldier who may at any time have deserted from the service,

shall present himself to any one of the corps of the army, and shall be exempt from the punishment to which he may have rendered himself liable.

Art. 2. Every soldier, sergeant or corporal, who may have obtained his discharge, and shall present himself, in order to serve only during the period of the present state of affairs, shall receive a gratification of ten dollars.

Art. 3. Every private individual who may wish to enter the service for the same period, shall receive a similar gratification, and shall, besides, be exempt for ever from the payment of all contributions or patents, and shall, on the information of the Prefect or the head of the Staff of the Army, immediately receive the requisite document to that effect from the Treasury of the Department.

Art. 4. Every household slave, and every slave employed in the cultivation of land, who may enter the service of the army, shall obtain his freedom by this very fact, and the boon shall be extended to his legitimate wife; he shall present himself before the General of the Staff, or to the Sub-Prefects, or to the Special Commissioners, who shall be appointed for this object; and who shall give a report to the General of the Staff, through the office of the Prefect, so that the certificate of freedom may be immediately given whenever the slave shall apply for it.

Art. 5. The term of service required of the slaves in consideration of the favour accorded to them shall be two years.

Art. 6. The masters of the slaves shall be indemnified for their value; for which a promissory note of the State shall be given upon the presentation of the respective documents of ownership to the Sub-Prefectures or Treasury.

The Minister of State in the Department of War and Marine is charged with the execution of this Decree, together with its publication and circulation.

Given at the Government Palace in Lima, 18th November, 1854.

(Signed) JOSE RUFINO ECHENIQUE.

(Countersigned) ANTONIO GUTIERREZ DE LA FUENTE.

In consequence of the foregoing, I direct that it be made public, promulgated, and made generally known to the slaves in every possible manner.

Given at the office of the Prefect in Lima, on the 19th November, 1854.

(Signed) MANUEL SUAREZ.

PORTUGAL.

No. 289.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 28, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of 11th March,* and in obedience to the instructions contained in it, I have again conveyed to the Viscount d'Athoguia the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the orders lately issued, in conformity with your Lordship's wishes, for the expulsion of the slave-trader Flores from Loanda, and for facilitating communication between Her Majesty's Commissioners and the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships and the Governor-General of Angola.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 290.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 15, 1854.

IN your despatch of this series of the 28th of January last,† you informed me that you had communicated to the Viscount d'Athoguia a memorandum containing the substance of the information which you had received from Mr. Consul Johnston, relative to the equipment at Oporto of the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," two vessels which were supposed to have been intended for the Slave Trade; and you stated that if that information should be followed up by proceedings on the part of the public authorities it might be the means of bringing to justice some of the parties concerned in those vessels.

I have to desire that you will acquaint me whether the Portuguese Government have taken any measures with regard to this matter, and, if so, whether those measures have been attended with any result.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 291.

Sir. R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, April 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit a copy of a note which I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 16th of last month, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of 20th February,‡ signifying to the Portuguese Government that Her Majesty's Government had approved of the conduct of Lieutenant Pearce, commanding Her Majesty's ship "*Atholl*," in resisting an attempt on the part of the Commander of the Portuguese war-schooner "*Conde do Tojal*," to board an English merchant-vessel in the port of Ambriz.

I have the honour, also, to inclose a copy and a translation of a note in reply, from the Viscount d'Athoguia.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 379.

† Ibid., No. 363.

‡ Ibid., No. 368.

Inclosure 1 in No. 291.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, March 16, 1854.

HIS Most Faithful Majesty's Government will no doubt have received from the officer commanding the Portuguese naval force on the west coast of Africa, copies of a correspondence which took place in the month of November last, between Lieutenant Pearse, commanding Her Majesty's sloop "Athol," and the officer commanding His Most Faithful Majesty's schooner of war "Conde do Tojal," respecting a right asserted by the latter officer to board an English merchant-vessel which was lying in the port of Ambriz, in company with Her Majesty's sloop "Athol," which pretension was resisted by the Commander of the "Athol."

This case having been brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government by the Admiral commanding on the west coast of Africa, I am instructed to acquaint your Excellency that the conduct of Lieutenant Pearse in resisting the attempt to board a British merchant-vessel lying in the harbour of Ambriz in company with a British vessel of war, has received the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

Her Majesty's Government have, at the same time, had much satisfaction in observing the spirit of courtesy and mutual respect in which the proceedings were carried on on both sides in this affair.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 291.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, March 24, 1854

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were pleased to write to me on the 16th instant, bringing to my knowledge the information received by your Government respecting the agreement which took place between the Commander of His Majesty's ship "Conde do Tojal" and Lieutenant Pearse, Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Athol," with regard to an English merchant-vessel anchored at Ambriz.

In thanking you for this communication, it becomes my duty to state to you that it has afforded His Majesty's Government much pleasure to learn the satisfactory manner in which an officer of the Royal Navy of Portugal conducted himself on that occasion; I immediately communicated your said note to the Marine Department for the appropriate ends.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 292.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, April 8, 1854.

BY your Lordship's despatch of 21st November last,* I had the satisfaction of learning that your Lordship approved of my having suggested to the Portuguese Government the expediency of immediately carrying into effect, with regard to the port of Angoxa, the provisions of the Decree of 18th October last, by which the Governor-General of Mozambique was empowered to open a number of ports in that province to foreign commerce. I now beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which, in consequence of such approval, I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 30th December last, repeating in

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 338.

a more formal way, and in the name of Her Majesty's Government, my suggestion with regard to Angoxa.

I have the honour also to inclose a translation of a note from the Viscount d'Athoguia, informing me that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government are prepared to act upon the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government upon this subject, by instructing the Governor-General of Mozambique immediately to carry the proposed measure into effect, for which purpose he will be authorised "to make use of an armed force if peradventure the people who rule at Angoxa, and there carry on the Slave Trade, should offer resistance to the new order of things," with the expectation, however, that Her Majesty's Government, appreciating the resolution referred to, and the "lively desire which animates the Portuguese Government to promote lawful commerce in that province, and to contribute in every way to the complete abolition of the wicked Traffic in Slaves, will send the necessary orders to the Commander of Her Majesty's naval force on the east coast of Africa to assist the Governor-General, if such cooperation should be required for the object in view."

The Viscount d'Athoguia goes on to say, that as soon as he is informed of the issue of such instructions he will send intelligence of the fact to the Governor-General of Mozambique through the Marine Department.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 292.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, December 30, 1854.

ON the 24th of last month I had the honour to place in your Excellency's hands a memorandum expressing the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government had heard of the recent Decrees of the Government of Portugal, having for their object the encouragement of lawful commerce in the important Province of Mozambique, by causing additional ports to be open to foreign trade. Among the ports which it was proposed by the Decree of 18th October last thus to open to trade is that of Angoxa, which place it has been represented to Her Majesty's Government possesses elements for an extensive commerce, if they were developed by the establishment of lawful intercourse with that part of the Portuguese possessions.

The only trade said to be now carried on there is the Slave Trade which cannot be more effectually prevented than by encouraging the native inhabitants to turn their attention to legitimate commerce.

From these considerations Her Majesty's Government direct me to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of making the port of Angoxa one of the first to receive the benefit of the wise and judicious provision of the Decree of 18th October.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 292.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, March 30, 1854.

I HAD the honour to receive the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 30th December of last year, in which, referring to the provisions of the Decree of the 17th of October of that year, published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 24th of the same month, you set forth the suitableness of opening at once to the commerce of all nations the port of Angoxa, in the Province of Mozambique. In answer, I have to state to you that His Majesty's Government duly appreciating, and returning thanks for, the valuable information contained in your above-mentioned note, and conforming to the report of the

Ultramarine Council on this subject, have commanded by a Portaria dated 15th instant, issued to the Governor-General of that province, the adoption and execution of the above measure, authorising him at once to employ armed force in case the people who rule at Angoxa, and carry on the Trade in Slaves should oppose any resistance to the new order of things.

His Majesty's Government, trusting that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will recognise in this resolution the lively wish which they entertain to promote legal commerce in that province, and to contribute all the means in their power towards the total abolition of the abominable Traffic in Slaves, hope that at the same time Her Britannic Majesty's Government will be willing to issue the necessary instructions to the Commander of the British naval force cruising on the eastern coast of Africa, for aiding the said Governor-General should he require his cooperation for the desired result.

As soon as you have the goodness to inform me that the above instructions have been issued, I will hasten to bring the same to the knowledge of the Governor-General, through the medium of the Marine Department.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOQUIA.

No. 293.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, April 21, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 8th instant,* stating that the Portuguese Government intend to open the port of Angoxa on the east coast of Africa to foreign commerce. I have to instruct you to inform the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the British Commodore on the Cape of Good Hope Station has already been instructed to take such measures as may seem to him best calculated to encourage the disposition of the Sultan of Angoxa to suppress the Slave Trade; and that he will now be informed that the Portuguese Government have issued orders to the Governor-General of Mozambique to open the port of Angoxa to the commerce of all nations, and that he should, if necessary, afford friendly advice to the Sultan in this matter, and recommend him to cooperate in promoting the success of the intended measure.

You will, however, let the Portuguese Minister clearly understand, that whilst Her Majesty's Government will be glad to afford all the assistance in their power to the Governor-General of Mozambique in suppressing the Slave Trade and promoting legitimate commerce at Angoxa, if the Portuguese authority is fully established there, they cannot aid in the nominal extension of Portuguese dominion over an indefinite range of country, particularly when Her Majesty's cruisers are no longer empowered to act for the suppression of Slave Trade when there are no established Portuguese authorities.

No. 294.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 1, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information and for communication to the Portuguese Government, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that two cargoes of slaves had been recently shipped from Benguella, and stating that there is every reason to apprehend the revival of Slave Trade to a considerable extent on that coast.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 291.

† See Class A, No. 48.

No. 295.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 4.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, April 28, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant, by which I am directed to report to your Lordship, whether, in consequence of the information contained in a memorandum which I delivered some time ago to the Viscount d'Athoguia, the Portuguese Government have taken any measures with regard to the equipment of two vessels at Oporto, the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," supposed to have been destined for the Slave Trade, and whether those measures have been attended with any result.

Up to this moment nothing has come to my knowledge to lead to the belief that any progress has been made in establishing a case against the persons concerned in the equipment of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*."

The vessels having in fact sailed from Oporto before anything was said of the guilty character of the enterprise, there was necessarily the more difficulty in obtaining proof of a variety of circumstances, which, had the vessels been detained in time, could hardly have failed, with common honesty and zeal on the part of the public authorities, to furnish grounds for serious proceedings against the parties concerned.

From time to time questions have been put to the Ministers in both Chambers of the Cortes, as to what has been done for the detection and punishment of the delinquents in this apparently scandalous business; but the answers have been of a vague and general character, proving, I should say, how superior the power and influence of the slave-trading interest at Oporto are, to the preventive resources of the Government in matters of this kind.

Under these circumstances, in order, if possible, to obtain the means of satisfying the inquiry contained in your Lordship's despatch, I have addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, which I humbly hope will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM

 Inclosure in No. 295.
Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

(Extract.)

Lisbon, April 24, 1854.

ON the 27th of January last I had the honour to place in your Excellency's hands a memorandum respecting the equipment of the two vessels the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which had then lately sailed from Oporto, supposed to be destined for the Slave Trade.

This same information it became my duty to transmit to Her Majesty's Government, expressing at the same time the opinion, that if it should be followed up by diligent proceedings on the part of the public authorities, it might be the means of bringing to justice some of the persons concerned in those criminal transactions.

I need not to inform your Excellency that the reports which appeared in the public papers of the equipment in such an open and undisguised manner of two vessels, generally believed to be intended for the Slave Trade, and the notice which was taken of the affair in the Portuguese Chambers, attracted a great deal of attention in England, and have caused much anxiety to Her Majesty's Government on account of the presumption which they furnish, that there are still persons in this country who devote their time and their capital to the prosecution of the Slave Trade; and what is more to be lamented, that these operations are carried on with little fear, on the part of those concerned, of detection or punishment.

Her Majesty's Government therefore instruct me to report what are the measures which have been taken by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government

in the matter of the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," and whether those measures have been attended with any result.

Your Excellency will do me a great favour by supplying me with the means of answering this inquiry on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

No. 296.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed on the 24th ultimo to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting to be informed what steps had been taken by the Portuguese Government with regard to the persons concerned in the suspected slavers "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which lately sailed from Oporto; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve your note to Viscount d'Athoguia on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 297.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, May 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 17th, 18th, and 21st of April.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in the first part of your Lordship's despatch of the 21st April, relative to the extent of the assistance which Her Majesty's Government are disposed to afford to the Portuguese Government, in carrying out the arrangements for opening the port of Angoxa on the east coast of Africa to foreign commerce, by placing in the hands of the Viscount d'Athoguia the note a copy of which is herewith submitted.

The instructions contained in a later part of the same despatch I thought it better to make the subject of a separate communication, a copy of which I have also the honour to submit.

Inclosure 1 in No. 297.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia

Sir,

Lisbon, May 3, 1854.

I DULY transmitted to Her Majesty's Government the note which your Excellency was pleased to address to me on the 30th of last March, in answer to my note of 30th December preceding, relative to the opening of the port of Angoxa on the east coast of Africa to foreign trade, in which note your Excellency expresses the desire of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government that Her Majesty's Government should direct the Commander of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in those seas to assist the Governor-General of Mozambique in such measures as it may be necessary to adopt to give effect to that measure.

And I am now commanded to inform your Excellency that it is already some time since the British Commodore on the Cape of Good Hope Station was instructed to take such measures as might seem to him best calculated to encourage the disposition manifested by the Sultan of Angoxa to suppress the Slave Trade, and that the same officer will now be informed that the Portuguese Government have issued orders to the Governor-General of Mozambique to open the port of Angoxa to the commerce of all nations, and

that he should, if necessary, afford friendly advice to the Sultan in this matter, and recommend to him to cooperate in promoting the success of the intended measure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 297.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

(Extract.)

Lisbon, May 3, 1854.

WITH reference to what I have the honour to say to your Excellency in a note dated this day, on the subject of the measures which it may be necessary to take to induce the Sultan of Angoxa to conform to the views of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, for the encouragement of legitimate commerce at that place, and for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I am commanded further to explain to your Excellency very distinctly, that whilst Her Majesty's Government will be glad to afford all the assistance in their power to the Governor-General of Mozambique, in suppressing the Slave Trade and promoting legitimate commerce at Angoxa, if the Portuguese authority is fully established there, they cannot aid in the nominal extension of the Portuguese dominion over an indefinite range of country, particularly since the Portuguese Government are no longer willing that Her Majesty's cruisers should be empowered to act for the suppression of the Slave Trade where there are no established Portuguese authorities.

Inclosure 3 in No. 297.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, May 5, 1854.

I HAVE before me the note which you were pleased to address to me under date of 3rd instant, in answer to the one which I sent you on the 30th March last, acquainting you for the information of your Government with the resolution taken by Her Majesty's Government of opening the port of Angoxa to the commerce of all nations, and expressing in the name of the Government, the wish that Her Britannic Majesty's Government, seeing by this measure their extreme desire to contribute towards the total abolition of the Slave Trade in the Province of Mozambique, and to promote legal commerce, should cause the necessary instructions to be given to the Commander of the British naval forces cruising on the east coast of Africa, to assist the Governor of that province, should he require his cooperation for the end in view.

Taking cognizance of the contents of the said note, and of the orders which the British Government were about to issue to the abovementioned Commander, and thanking you for this communication, I have the honour to acquaint you that on this date I address a communication to the Marine Department, in order that the said Governor may be informed of the same.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 298.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, May 8, 1854.

WITH my despatch of the 28th April, I had the honour to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 15th April, I had addressed to the Viscount

d'Athoguia for the purpose of ascertaining from his Excellency whether any measures had been taken in consequence of the information lately communicated by me to his Excellency, to bring to justice the persons concerned in the equipment of two vessels the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto, destined, as is universally believed, for the Slave Trade.

I have now the honour to inclose a translation of a note from the Viscount d'Athoguia, in reply to my note of the 24th April, in which it is stated, that through the Departments of Marine and Foreign Affairs orders have been issued to the civil and military authorities in the Portuguese ultra-marine possessions and in the ports of Brazil, to watch carefully, and to ascertain whether the vessels in question have appeared in those parts, the same orders having been given to the cruisers of the Royal Navy, without any intelligence having as yet been received of what may have become of the vessels.

But the memorandum furnished by me, to which reference is made in this note of the Viscount d'Athoguia, contained no information of a nature requiring the cognizance of the ultra-marine authorities or the commanders of the Portuguese cruisers; it related exclusively to matters connected with the equipment of the two vessels at Oporto, the investigation of which ought to have been committed to the authorities of that place.

I have hastened to rectify the mistake thus made by the Viscount d'Athoguia by an explanatory note, of which I have the honour herewith to submit a copy, and in which I point out to his Excellency that it may not be, even now, too late to make use of the information contained in the memorandum of 27th January; observing, at the same time, that however desirable it may be that success should attend the orders to the civil and military authorities abroad, of which mention is made in his Excellency's note, it is equally, or perhaps more, important that the original delinquents in this criminal enterprise, that is to say, the owners or employers of the two ships whose residence is supposed to be within the Kingdom of Portugal, should be detected and made to pay the penalty of their offence.

Inclosure 1 in No. 298.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, May 1, 1854.

I HAVE received the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 24th April, last, in which referring to the information which you had previously communicated to me, relating to the equipment of the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," you request to be enabled to transmit to your Government, in accordance with your instructions, the requisite information with regard to the measures taken by Her Majesty's Government respecting the said vessels, and the results which may have been obtained from such measures.

Having read the said note with due attention, I have the honour to state to you, that through the Departments of Marine and of Foreign Affairs, the most stringent orders have been issued to their delegates, both civil and military, in the Portuguese ultra-marine possessions and in the ports of Brazil, to keep a strict look-out for these two vessels, in order to ascertain whether they have arrived; similar instructions having also been furnished to the cruisers of the Royal Navy of Portugal; and that up to the present no news of the destination of these vessels has been received.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 298.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's note dated 1st of this month, in which, in answer to my note of 24th April last, having for its object to ascertain, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, what were the measures taken by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for the discovery of the persons concerned in the criminal enterprise of fitting out the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," two vessels which sailed some time ago from Oporto, destined, as it is now universally believed, for the Slave Trade, your Excellency is pleased to state that the most positive orders were issued through the Departments of Marine and Foreign Affairs to the civil and military authorities in the ultra-marine possessions of Portugal, closely to watch and ascertain whether these vessels should touch at such places; similar orders having likewise been issued to the cruisers of the Royal Navy of Portugal, without any intelligence having as yet been received as to the destination of these said vessels.

I shall not fail to transmit your Excellency's note, to which I have the honour to reply, to Her Majesty's Government, in order that they may be informed of the steps taken by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for the purpose of counteracting the wicked intentions of the persons concerned in the equipment of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," but your Excellency must pardon me for remarking that your Excellency appears, no doubt in the hurry of business, to have overlooked the nature of the information communicated by me on the 27th of January, to which reference is made in my late note of 24th April.

I beg leave now to inclose a duplicate of that communication and I would request your Excellency to have the goodness to observe that the statement therein contained, relates not to matters properly coming under the cognizance of the civil and military authorities of the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty's ultra-marine possessions, or of the commanders of His Majesty's cruisers, but to things connected with the equipment of the two suspected vessels within the jurisdiction of the authorities of Oporto, the names of several persons being furnished who are supposed to have taken an active part in supplying the vessels with articles such as are only used on a slaving voyage, and of others who are accused by public opinion at Oporto of being actually concerned in slave-trading transactions.

It was with regard to the use which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government might have made of the information thus communicated, and with what result, that I was instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to make inquiry of your Excellency, and I beg leave now with due deference to suggest that it may not, even at this hour, be too late to endeavour to follow up the clue thus given to several things relating to the equipment of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*." It is of course earnestly to be desired that the orders already given through the Foreign Department and the Marine Department of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, may lead to the intended result, but I submit that it is a matter of equal, perhaps indeed of greater, importance, that the principal authors of the crime, the owners of the vessel and the persons employed in various ways to fit them out, should not escape detection and punishment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 299.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant,* inclosing copies of two notes which, in execution of the instructions contained in my despatch to you of the 21st ultimo, you addressed on the 3rd instant to the Viscount d'Athoguia, informing his Excellency to what extent the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the Cape of Good Hope Station will be instructed by Her Majesty's Government to cooperate with the Governor-General of Mozambique towards opening the port of Angoxa to foreign commerce. And I have in reply to inform you that I approve of the manner in which you have carried out my instructions on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 300.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant,† inclosing a copy of a note dated the 1st instant which you had received from the Viscount d'Athoguia, informing you that instructions had been issued to the Portuguese Colonial authorities, and to the Commanders of Portuguese cruizers abroad, to watch for the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Traiano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto, as there was reason to believe, on a slave-trading voyage. And I have to inform you that I approve the note which you addressed on the 4th instant to Viscount d'Athoguia in reply, pointing out to his Excellency that it was of greater importance that an investigation should be set on foot at Oporto, with the view of bringing to justice the persons concerned in the equipment of those vessels.

I transmit to you, at the same time, copies of a despatch‡ and of its inclosure which I have received from Mr. Howard, &c., stating that he has been informed by the Brazilian Government that the two vessels in question, after touching in Brazil, proceeded to the Portuguese Settlement of Novo Redondo, on the west coast of Africa, where they succeeded in embarking two cargoes of African slaves, with which they sailed towards Cuba.

I have to instruct you to communicate this information to the Viscount d'Athoguia, and to call his Excellency's serious attention to Mr. Howard's observations as to the manner in which the efforts now made by the Brazilian Government to put an end to the African Slave Trade are obstructed and discouraged by the impunity with which the slave-dealers are permitted to fit out their expeditions in the ports of Portugal, and are also enabled to carry away Africans for sale from the Portuguese Settlements in Africa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 301.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 19, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting a licence which has been granted by the Portuguese Government to Don Souza e Almeida, a Portuguese subject at Benguella, to remove his negroes, under certain conditions,

* No. 297.

† No. 298.

‡ No. 86.

from that place to Prince's Island, I now transmit to you for your information a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing information as to the character and proceedings of Senhor Almeida.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 302.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing their report on the state of the Slave Trade in that neighbourhood during the year 1853.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 303.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 1st and 8th instant.

I fulfil the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant by addressing a note to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating to him the substance of what is stated in the despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, dated 20th February, a copy of which accompanies your Lordship's despatch, relative to the renewed activity of the Slave Trade in the district of Benguella, and the consequently disastrous state of things prevailing in that part of the Portuguese dominions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 304.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Count de Lavradio.

Foreign Office, May 24, 1854.

THE Undersigned &c., has the honour to acquaint the Count de Lavradio &c., that he has referred to the proper Department of Her Majesty's Government, the note from Count Lavradio of the 16th of January last,‡ referring to a trial which took place in August 1853, before the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Loanda, in the case of the Portuguese schooner "*Aguia*," and calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the contents of a declaration made on the 16th of August, 1853, by Antonio Alvez de Amorim, the master of the "*Aguia*," who stated that the English prize crew

* See Class A, No. 49.

† Ibid., No. 56.

‡ See Class B, presented 1854, No. 353.

which was on board that vessel, took on shore at Loanda, and there sold for a dollar each, some pieces of cloth belonging to the cargo, of which sale Amorim suspected that the English prize-master was cognizant.

The Undersigned begs leave to acquaint Count Lavradio that Mr. Kidd, the officer in question, has been called upon to answer the above-mentioned charge; and the Undersigned has now the honour to inclose copies of Mr. Kidd's answer, and of the affidavit therein referred to, in which documents that officer states that, having been obliged on account of the length of the voyage to procure a supply of water at Mayumba, he there parted with a portion of the cloth which was on board the "*Agua*," in order to pay for the water, but he distinctly denies the truth of the statement, that either he or any of the British prize-crew, either took on shore, or sold at Loanda, any part of the cargo of that vessel.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 304.

Mr. Kidd to Commodore Kitchen.

Sir,

"*Alecto*," *Ascension*, March 1854.

WITH reference to the charge made against myself and the prize crew of the "*Agua*," by the master of the said vessel—

I have the honour to state, that the only part of the cargo that left the vessel, or was taken from her whilst in my charge, with my knowledge or permission, were those which I mentioned in my declaration before the Court, marked F.

On the master of the vessel making the charge before the Court, I reported the circumstance to Commander Miller, Her Majesty's brig "*Crane*," then at anchor in the harbour of St. Paul's de Loanda, and the whole of the crew denied, in his presence, having done anything of the sort.

Also previous to the men leaving the vessel, on her delivery to the Marshal of the Court, I registered, in the presence of my advocate and the interpreter, that the men's bags may be searched to see that they took no part of the cargo from the vessel.

I can therefore declare, that neither myself nor to my knowledge did any of the prize-crew, sell or take any part of the vessel's cargo. The Portuguese crew were the only men, to my knowledge, that took any clothes from the vessel, which the master of the vessel said belonged to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN OUGHTON KIDD.

No. 305.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Portuguese Legation, London, May 26, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., addressed to him, on the 24th instant, in answer to that which the Undersigned had addressed to his Excellency on the 16th of January last.

The Undersigned is about to transmit immediately to his Government the two documents which accompanied the note above referred to, and which the Undersigned abstains from discussing, confining himself simply to observing that those two documents will necessarily appear in the process instituted, in

conformity with the Laws of Portugal, against the parties accused of having committed, or connived at, the robbery on board the vessel "*Aguia*," according to the declaration made at Loanda on the 16th of August, 1853, before the Portuguese and British Mixed Commission, by Antonio Alvez Martino, master of the vessel in question.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) LAVRADIO.

No. 306.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854:

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, a copy of a letter,* with its inclosures, addressed to Commodore Talbot, late commanding in chief Her Majesty's squadron on the Cape of Good Hope Station, by Commander Morris, of Her Majesty's ship "*Hydra*," reporting the circumstances under which he boarded the Portuguese Government schooner "*Quarto d'Avril*," in the Mozambique Channel, on the 4th of February last. And I have to desire that you will make known to the Portuguese Government the circumstances under which Commander Morris boarded the vessel in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 307.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, dated the 24th March last, reporting that the Portuguese naval force in the Province of Angola had been reduced to one brig of war, the "*Serra do Pilar*."

I have to desire that you will communicate to the Portuguese Government the information contained in the inclosed despatch, and that you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa may be reinforced.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 308.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 1, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 1st and 18th of May, respecting the revival of the Slave Trade at Beiguella, I transmit herewith copies of two despatches‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing further information

* Class A, No. 124.

† See Class A, No. 59.

‡ See Class A, Nos. 58 and 61.

relative to the shipment of slaves from that district, and I have to instruct you to call the attention of the Viscount d'Athoguia to the confirmation which the despatch from the Commissioners of the 23rd of March affords of the statement inclosed in my despatch of the 18th ultimo as to the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which were so openly equipped at Oporto for the Slave Trade, having carried away cargoes of slaves from Novo Redondo.

You will also point out to his Excellency, with reference to the concluding paragraph of the inclosed despatch of the 30th of March, the evil effects which the revival of the Slave Trade in Angola has had upon the legitimate commerce between Portugal and the ports of Loanda and Benguella; and you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty will select for the post of Governor-General of Angola, an officer whose previous reputation and energetic qualities may leave no doubt upon the minds of the slave-dealers as to his determination to remove from that province the disgrace which will permanently attach to its Government, if it should continue, as lately, to permit the revival of this desolating Traffic.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 309.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of three important Decrees* with regard to slavery in Cuba, which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March last, and which are intended to promote the employment of slaves in agricultural labour, the protection of free labourers coming from foreign countries, and the registration of slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 310.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 14, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith, an extract, and a copy of two despatches† which I have received from Mr. Rendall, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Vincent's, respecting the exportation of slaves from Bissao and Cacheu to Cuba, and also to the Cape Verd Islands, and stating that a schooner intended for the Cuba Slave Trade is being built at Bissao.

I have to instruct you to call the serious attention of the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs to these statements. And you will at the same time point out to his Excellency the expediency of following the example of the Spanish Government, by establishing a system of registration of slaves in the Cape Verd Islands, in order that the authorities of those islands may be enabled effectually to control the illegal importation of new slaves which is reported in Mr. Rendall's despatch of the 11th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Inclosures in No. 384.

† Nos. 366 and 368.

No. 311.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 14.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 2nd of this month to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 24th ultimo.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in that dated the 18th ultimo, communicating to the Portuguese Government the information contained in Mr. Howard's despatch relative to two vessels the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto, fitted for the Slave Trade; and expressing the hope of Her Majesty's Government that, with such evidence before them of the inadequacy of the measures hitherto adopted to prevent such criminal operations, His Most Faithful Majesty's advisers will be disposed to devise the means of efficiently fulfilling the obligations of this country for the prevention of the Slave Trade, as well in what relates to the equipment of slave-vessels in the ports of Portugal, as to the shipment of negroes for sale from the Portuguese possessions in Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 312.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 18, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 31st of May and 1st of June.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in these despatches, by informing the Portuguese Government of the circumstances under which Commander Morris, of Her Majesty's ship "*Hydra*," was induced to board the Portuguese Government schooner "*Quarto d'Abril*," in the month of July last, in the Mozambique Channel; and by signifying to the Viscount d'Athoguia the expectation of Her Majesty's Government that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will make arrangements to reinforce the Portuguese naval force on the west coast of Africa, now reduced to a single brig of war, the "*Serra do Pilar*."

I beg leave to submit copies of the notes which I have addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia upon these two subjects.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 312.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 13, 1854.

I AM directed by Her Majesty's Government to place in your Excellency's hands copies of a letter and of its inclosures addressed to Commodore Talbot, late Commanding-in-chief Her Majesty's Squadron on the Cape of Good Hope Station, by Commander Morris, of Her Majesty's ship "*Hydra*," reporting the circumstances under which he was induced to board the Portuguese Government schooner "*Quarto d'Abril*," in the Mozambique Channel, on the 4th July last.

Your Excellency will perceive that the error into which Commander

Morris was led in boarding this vessel, arose from her displaying no pendant, nor presenting in any other way the appearance of a vessel belonging to His Most Faithful Majesty's navy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 312.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 13, 1854.

BY advices lately received from the west coast of Africa, Her Majesty's Government are informed, that in consequence of the brig-of-war "Corimba" having been condemned as unseaworthy, and of the defective condition of the schooner "Conde de Tojal," the Portuguese naval force on that station may be said to be reduced to the brig "Serra do Pilar."

Her Majesty's Government lament a state of things so likely to give encouragement to slaving operations, and I am accordingly instructed to express to your Excellency their hope that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will be able to make arrangements for reinforcing the squadron on the west coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 313.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit a copy of a note which I addressed to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 13th instant, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st June, communicating the information which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, relative to the shipment of slaves from the district of Benguella, which information confirms the correctness of the statement contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th May, as to the part taken in these criminal transactions by the two vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," whose names have lately so frequently been mentioned in the Slave Trade correspondence of this Mission.

I have the honour also to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 6th June, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th May; and a copy of another note dated the 16th May, by which I fulfilled the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st of that month; all relating to the shipment of slaves from Benguella, and more or less also to the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*."

Your Lordship will see, that in my note of 13th instant I have taken due notice of that part of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, which goes to recommend to the Portuguese Government the necessity of choosing for the now vacant Governor-Generalship of Angola an officer whose previous reputation and energetic qualities shall offer some security for the proper fulfilment of his duty in what relates to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 313.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, May 16, 1854.

I AM instructed to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have lately received from the British Commissioners at Loanda, very distressing intelligence as to the increasing activity with which the Slave Trade is now carried on at Benguella, the Government of which district had transmitted to the Governor-General the most lamentable accounts of the state of things prevailing in that part of the Portuguese dominions.

Two vessels, it appears, had sailed from Benguella at the end of December, or beginning of January, with full cargoes of slaves; and he has every reason to believe that fresh ventures will be attempted, which he does not possess the means of preventing.

The slave interest has received so great an impulse and encouragement from the recent success which has attended its operations, that he feels assured that the traffickers will resume their speculations with increased activity, and that the picking of urzella, in which the negroes had begun universally to engage, had become so impeded, that the launches return from the south with little or no supplies of that article.

The consequence, the Governor adds, of all this is, that no payments can be obtained, and that he apprehends ruinous commercial losses, which will not be confined to this province, but which will extend also to the mother country.

Her Majesty's Government are confident that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will hear with great concern of a state of affairs so different from that which the two Governments have so long been labouring to bring about in that part of the world, and be moved to make fresh efforts, if possible, to counteract the nefarious operations of the slave-traders, by which it appears from the Governor's report, that the Province of Benguella has been thrown back from a condition of comparative prosperity and successful industry to the same state of misery and desolation which the country presented in the worst days of African Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 313.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 6, 1854.

I AM commanded to inform your Excellency, that intelligence has reached Her Majesty's Government, on the correctness of which they believe that they can rely, to the effect that the two vessels, the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," which sailed from Oporto some time ago, supposed to be bound on a slaving voyage, did in fact proceed to the Portuguese Settlement of Novo Redondo, on the west coast of Africa, where they succeeded, each of them, in embarking a cargo of slaves, with which they sailed towards Cuba. Her Majesty's Government are assured that those two vessels are the property of a Portuguese subject named Thomas da Costa Ramos, whose place of residence is Lisbon; and, that on board of one of them proceeded a certain Benito Derizanz, a native of Venezuela, who has acquired notoriety in the history of the Slave Trade as the acknowledged partner of Da Costa Ramos.

This is no doubt the person whose name appeared so conspicuously in the papers found on board the "*Valoroso*," a vessel seized by one of Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast of Brazil, in June 1851, as the correspondent of Francisco Antonio Flores, of Loanda, which fact I had the honour to bring to your Excellency's notice a short time ago, as one tending to establish a case of active participation in the Slave Trade against Flores.

Her Majesty's Government feel deep concern in being obliged to lay

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before the Portuguese Government this fresh evidence of the impunity with which vessels intended for the Slave Trade continue to be fitted out in the ports of this country, thus obstructing and discouraging the increasing efforts of Her Majesty's Government, and of the Imperial Government of Brazil, to put a stop to that Traffic.

They are, however, willing to hope, that seeing the inadequacy of the measures hitherto adopted to prevent those criminal evasions of the law, His Most Faithful Majesty's advisers will now be disposed to devise the means of efficiently fulfilling the obligations of this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade, as well in what relates to the equipment of slave-vessels in the ports of Portugal as to the shipment of Africans for sale from the Portuguese Settlements in Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 313.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 13, 1854.

WITH reference to the notes which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 16th May and 6th June last, communicating the unwelcome intelligence which had reached Her Majesty's Government respecting the revival of the Slave Trade on the west coast of Africa, I am now directed to put your Excellency in possession of the information contained in the inclosed copies of two despatches lately received from the British Commissioners at Loanda, which afford ample confirmation of the statement contained in my note of the 6th June, relative to the embarkation of two cargoes of slaves on board the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which were some months since so openly equipped for the Slave Trade at Oporto.

I am likewise directed to request your Excellency's particular attention to the concluding paragraph of the Commissioners' despatch of the 30th March, describing the evil effects which the revival of the Slave Trade in Angola has had upon the legitimate commerce between Portugal and the ports of Loanda and Benguella. Her Majesty's Government, viewing with deep concern the mischief brought about by the facilities lately allowed for the revival of this desolating Traffic, would earnestly recommend to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government the necessity of selecting for the now vacant Government of Angola an officer whose previous reputation and energetic qualities may leave no doubt upon the minds of the slave-dealers as to his determination to remove from that province the disgrace which will permanently attach to it, if the local Government should continue, as lately, to permit the revival of the Slave Trade within its limits.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 314.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 26, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th of June,* and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the letters which you addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 16th ultimo, and on the 6th and 13th instant, respecting the equipment at Oporto of the slave-vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," and respecting the revival of the Slave Trade in the Province of Benguella.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 315.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 5.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 28, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 14th June, inclosing an extract and a copy of two despatches from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Vincent's, respecting the exportation of slaves from Bissao and Cacheu to Cuba, and also to the Cape de Verde Islands, and directing me, in calling the serious attention of the Portuguese Government to these statements, to point out the expediency of following the example of the Spanish Government, by establishing in the Cape de Verde Islands a system of registration of slaves like that lately established in Cuba.

I have the honour to submit a copy of a note which I have presented to the Viscount d'Athoguia, in the sense of these your Lordship's instructions, with which note, your Lordship will perceive, I have placed in his Excellency's hands copies of Her Catholic Majesty's late Decree for the above mentioned purpose, and others tending to improve the condition of the black population in the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 315.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 22, 1854.

I AM directed to communicate to your Excellency the accompanying extract and copy of two despatches, lately received by Her Majesty's Government from Her Majesty's Consul for the Cape de Verde Islands: the first, stating that several cargoes of slaves have lately been shipped from Bissao and Cacheu to Cuba, and that there is a large schooner in process of construction at Bissao under the superintendence of Spanish carpenters which is intended for the Cuba Slave Trade; the second, relating to the frequent transportation of slaves which are said to take place from Bissao to the Cape de Verde Islands.

I am directed to request the serious attention of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to these statements, and, with reference to the latter subject of what may be called local Slave Trade, to point out to your Excellency the expediency of following the example lately given by Spain by establishing a system of registration of slaves in the Cape de Verde Islands, in order that the authorities of those islands may be enabled effectually to control the illegal importation of new slaves, which Her Majesty's Government are assured now constantly takes place.

With this view, I have the honour herewith to place in your Excellency's hands the inclosed printed copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, transmitting copies of three Decrees lately signed by Her Catholic Majesty, providing for the registration of slaves, and other measures intended for the improvement of the condition of the black population in the Island of Cuba.

I take, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 5.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, June 28, 1854.

I THINK it right to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a number of the Portuguese Official Journal containing a report of what passed in the Chamber of Peers, on the 17th instant, with reference to the Viscount Pinheiro's proceedings as Governor-General of Angola, and with reference also to the two vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," and other matters connected with the Slave Trade.

I also inclose a translated abstract of the same report.

With regard to the two slavers "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," I beg leave, in like manner, to lay before your Lordship a translation of an official letter from the Minister of the Interior to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, which has been communicated to me by the Viscount d'Athoguia, giving the result of the inquiry set on foot in consequence of the information which I communicated to the Portuguese Government, as I had the honour to mention in my despatch of 28th January last. *

The papers transmitted with the official letter being very voluminous, I have been obliged to limit myself to an abstract (in English) of their contents, which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

The substance of the whole is, that the authorities of Oporto declare, that it has been impossible to find out anything respecting the two vessels of a nature to justify proceedings against the owners or equippers on the ground of being concerned in the Slave Trade.

Inclosure 1 in No. 316.

Abstract of the Debate in the Chamber of Peers, on 17th June, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Viscount de Castro said, that he had in a former debate questioned the Minister for Foreign Affairs and for the Marine Department with reference to the conduct of the Portuguese Consul at Pernambuco in connection with the affair of the "*Arrogante*" and the so called Traffic in White Slaves.

That the Minister had then declared, with regard to the first point, that he had called upon the said Consul for his report of the affair, and that he would do all in his power to abolish that Traffic, and if necessary would submit to the Cortes a project of law to that end. Now he knew, that his Excellency had received the report of the Consul, which he thought it would be but fair to publish in the "*Diario do Governo*" seeing that the accusations against him were also published, and in the meantime he would await his Excellency's reply as to the measures adopted by the Government for putting a stop to that most disgraceful Traffic, that he fully agreed with the assertion made by his Excellency, that it is very difficult by positive and direct measures to prevent emigration to Demerara and the Antilles, from Madeira and the Azores, owing to the facilities which these places offer for getting on board and for evading the supervision of the authorities; but still the evils of this system of emigration were so great, especially for those emigrating to the Brazils, and not having wherewith to pay their passage, and who, on their arrival, were forced to sell their services to the first bidder in order to pay the captain for their conveyance, that he could not fail to call the serious attention of the Government to this subject.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs said in reply, that with respect to the Consul at Pernambuco, an impartial and prudent course had been adopted, that he had been called upon for his defence, which, together with the accusations made against him, have been duly examined by the crown lawyer, who has given his opinion, and all these papers are ready for publication in the "*Diario do Governo*." That he agreed as to the necessity of adopting measures for preventing the emigration, which is, unfortunately, carried on in

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 363.

a manner unworthy of the Portuguese nation, inasmuch as the poor emigrants, who go to Brazil and other foreign countries, are treated by the captains of vessels with very little charity, and suffer great inconvenience and hardship. That as he had before stated, he was determined to submit for the approval of the legislative body, measures for preventing the continuance of this system of emigration; but that the difficult point was, the carrying out of any such law in foreign ports where no responsibility could be exacted, except by means of a compact with those countries as suggested. He would add, that all the offers made by Government to these people, of employment on the continent, and even of engaging them for the Royal Navy, have been disregarded by them in their eagerness to emigrate to foreign countries, under the delusive hope of making their fortunes.

Count Thomar rose to say, that the answers of the Minister of Marine were highly gratifying as showing a tendency to proceed with justice and impartiality in the case in question; that he wished he could say the same with regard to another case, respecting which the only answer that he had been able to obtain was, that the necessary information had not yet arrived. He referred to the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," and he could not but feel some surprise at the want of information on the part of the Minister, when it was known to all the world that these vessels took in slaves on the coast of Africa, and it was generally stated, that they had conveyed them to Cuba. These facts then being admitted on all sides, it appeared to him impossible, that after some months, and after the repeated notices contained in the journals, both foreign and native, and when even some foreign diplomatic missions have received various communications upon this subject, the Government alone should have received no information. That it was the duty of the Government to obtain such information through their diplomatic and consular agents at the proper places, and it might have been obtained from the African Settlements, if certain measures had not been lately adopted by the Governor-General, among which may be noted the appointment of civil officers whom it is much to be hoped are not in connivance with these acts.

One individual, generally accused of connivance in the Slave Trade, was appointed; it cannot be admitted that a Governor-General of a transmarine province is authorized to dismiss all the officers of the province, including those holding appointments from the Crown, and to substitute others of his own choice, as was done at Angola; and it is to be hoped, that this was not done in order to cloak certain proceedings subsequently practised, but of which his Excellency said, he was not yet in a position to speak; he must, however, make a fresh and important notification to the Government, for he had been assured that an agreement had been just concluded in this city, for the purpose of carrying on the infamous Traffic of Slaves, and under the auspices of an influential person in Africa, and beg of them to be upon their guard.

The Minister of Marine said, that believing as he did in the assertions of the worthy peer who had just spoken, yet it was not always possible to obtain proofs of such crimes; that he also could point out an individual who had been indicated as a slaver by natives as well as foreigners, but the worthy peer, who has already been a member of a court of justice, knows, that without documents no man can be imprisoned. That with regard to the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," he had done all in his power to obtain correct information of their movements, but without success; nor is this suprising, for if it were true that they had effected their negotiation, they must have gone direct to the Coast of Africa, and from thence to Cuba; that he had since learned that the vessel whose name was changed to "*Ermelinda*" was very likely to be the "*Trajano*," and measures had been taken to try and capture this vessel; that to the south of Benguella 300 slaves had been taken that were ready for shipping; and that finally a vessel called the "*Rosa*" had taken on board a number of slaves who had been usually engaged in collecting orchella weed ("*urzella*") and had therefore disarmed suspicion as to their intentions; about 150 of them have however been apprehended by the English and Portuguese cruizers.

That he had felt inclined at first to request, that the worthy peer would state the names of those persons who are said to carry on the Slave Trade,

but he had desisted from this step until sufficient and convincing proofs could be obtained of their culpability, in which case he would himself not hesitate to expose them, that they might receive the punishment due to their crimes.

With reference to the Governorship of Angola, he would say, that the person appointed in the place of the late Governor who is now in Lisbon, is an officer who had held the Governorship of Benguella, and of whom good reports had reached him from persons of every political shade, which showed that there was no partiality; this officer, whose name he could not recollect, was by this time in possession of the Governorship of Angola, and he felt no fear of ever having to regret having made this appointment.

Count Thomar said, that he was very sorry that the explanations given by his Excellency the Minister of Marine were not altogether satisfactory; for, in the first place, there was no excuse for the Government in not being able to obtain information respecting the slave-traders' movements; the more so as it had been stated by an Oporto newspaper, that the Government had put a stop to the investigations on this subject, inasmuch as they would involve certain persons who were connected with those in power; these assertions had not been contradicted by the Government, nor had any measures been taken to clear themselves from the imputation.

In the second place, with respect to the removal of the officers, whom the Governor-General of Angola replaced by others of his own selection, it must be admitted, that the end in view was, not the good of the public service; and it would be well to know, whether the Government sanctioned the dismissal of those functionaries who held appointments under the seal of the Sovereign, in order that they might be replaced by others, who had previously been sent out of the province, owing to their being convicted of connivance in the Slave Trade. In fact, every circumstance tends to show the complete abuse of power, and the ends towards which it was directed, viz.: those of private interests, and not the public good; it remains then for the Government to take this matter up seriously, and to decide, whether these measures are to be allowed or to be revoked.

Some further discussion took place in which the Viscount Fonte Arcada and the Marquis Vallada joined, both of whom censured the Government for a want of proper energy in suppressing and punishing the arbitrary conduct of some of the public servants. This was met by the Viscount de Athoguia the Minister of Marine, with recriminations and comparisons of the acts of former Governments.

Inclosure 2 in No. 316.

The Minister of the Interior to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Home Department, June 7, 1854.

AS soon as this Department found out what the public journals denounced with respect to the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," which were said to have equipped in the Douro, and sailed from Oporto to be engaged in the Slave Trade, I instructed the Civil Governor of the District of Oporto to proceed to the most scrutinising investigations, in order to learn by evidence, whether the said vessels had or had not received that destination, as also the circumstances attending the case, and who were the persons implicated in that unlawful Trade.

The said Magistrate complied by sending me the information contained in the Inclosures Nos. 1 and 2; but at the same time, knowing that it was insufficient for a full elucidation of the case, he informed me that he would proceed with fresh investigations until such time as he arrived at some result.

It was during this interval that Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at this Court delivered, about the end of January of this year, a memorandum containing some information on this subject, a copy of which your Excellency sent me with your despatch of 16th May last. A translation of this memorandum was immediately transmitted to the said Civil Governor that he might take

advantage of the suggestions contained therein, and proceed to the necessary examinations with all the care which the case demanded.

In consequence, therefore, of this, the persons pointed out in the memorandum as being acquainted with the case, were called upon to declare what they knew respecting the equipment and true destination of these two vessels.

From their declarations as shown in the annexed copy of the process No. 3, nothing was learned upon the subject.

The occurrence, if true, remains shrouded in mystery and secrecy, and the investigations which took place having failed in confirming what the press affirmed with regard to the employment of these vessels, plainly shows, as the Civil Governor truly remarks, the impossibility of obtaining data and information sufficient to authorize the institution of legal proceedings against any person.

All which I have the honour to state to your Excellency, that you may be pleased to make it known to the above mentioned British Minister for his information.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) R. FONSECA MAGALHAES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 316.

Extract from the Process relating to the "Guerra" and the "Trajano."

(Translation.)

DESPATCH of Minister of the Interior to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated Lisbon, June 7, 1854, with three Inclosures. Copy and translation annexed.

Inclosure No. 1.

*Document 1.—Civil Governor of Oporto to Minister of the Interior.
Oporto, January 5, 1854.*

Précis.—Has instructed the officer in charge of the police of the port to report the circumstances attending the departure of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," and whether he had observed any indications which might lead to a suspicion of their being equipped for a slaving voyage.

*Document No. 2.—Delegate of Police to Civil Governor. Maçarelos,
January 5, 1854.*

Précis.—The "*Guerra*" cleared outwards for Santos, touching at Vianna, and sailed from this port on the 9th November last, with a crew of fourteen persons; this vessel sailed in ballast, and was to take in cargo at Vianna; she carried no passengers.

The "*Trajana*" cleared outwards for Rio Grande do Sul, touching at the Azores, and sailed from this port on the 10th December last, with a crew of eleven persons and one passenger; this vessel also sailed in ballast.

As these vessels were bound for Portuguese ports, they did not come within the action of the laws enacted for vessels bound to Angola, and other African ports, and therefore I did not examine the hold, but merely verified the number of the crew and passengers, and in the discharge of these duties I perceived no article or circumstance leading to a suspicion of the nature indicated to me.

*Document No. 3.—Copies of the official entries of the departure of the
"Guerra" and "Trajana."*

*Document No. 4.—Copy of Muster Roll of "Trajana," and description
of passenger.*

Document No. 5.—Copy of the Muster Roll of the "Guerra."

Inclosure No. 2.

*Document No. 1.—Civil Governor of Oporto to Minister of the Interior.
Oporto, January 23, 1854.*

Précis.—Has continued to institute inquiries relating to the destination and other circumstances attending the departure of the “*Guerra*” and the “*Trajana*,” but which have as yet led to no result of the nature contemplated, as will be seen from the annexed documents.

Document No. 2.

Bernardo Jose Machado, merchant, of Oporto, and reputed cashier of the “*Guerra*” and “*Trajana*,” on being examined declared, that Manuel Francisco Cardozo, a merchant of Fayal, was the owner of these vessels, and that he had sailed in the “*Trajana*,” being provided with a passport for England, conferred by the Civil Governor of Lisbon, and bearing the visâ of the Civil Governor of Oporto. That with regard to their cargo and destination, the said Cardozo had told him that they were intended for conveying emigrants from the Azores to Santos and to Rio Grande do Sul, and had given him a list of stores and provisions required, all of which were shipped through the Custom-house; that said vessels were built at Villa Nova de Gaia, by Custodio da Silva Santos and Carlos Joaquim d’Azevedo Varêta.

Document No. 3.

João Gomes Pinto de Abreu, a member of the firm Daniel Irmão and Co., shipping agents, on being examined declared that his firm had been intrusted with the clearing out of said vessels, by their consignee, Bernardo Jose Machado, a merchant of Oporto. With regard to their destination, the “*Guerra*” was cleared for Santos, to touch at Vianna do Castello, and the “*Trajana*” for Rio Grande do Sul, to touch at the Azores; that he believed they had sailed in ballast.

*Document No. 4.—Administrator of 1st Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto.
January, 23, 1854.*

Précis.—From his inquiries it does not appear that the said vessels were intended for a slaving voyage, or that any articles or implements had been purchased for such a purpose within his district.

Document No. 5.—Administrator of 2nd Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto. January 23, 1854.

Précis.—From the inquiries instituted in this district, it appears that no articles of the nature indicated in the “*Portuguez*” newspaper, have been supplied by the shops of this ward, nor are they kept in such quantities as to cause a suspicion.

Document No. 6.—Administrator of 3rd Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto. January 23, 1854.

Précis.—Has not been able to obtain any confirmation of the suspicions respecting the “*Guerra*” and the “*Trajana*,” it is not proved that these vessels refused to convey passengers or to carry cargo; neither is it true that they had shipped a numerous crew, barrels of beads, slave-decks, &c., and water, &c. for a number of persons.

Inclosure No. 3.

*Despatch of Civil Governor of Oporto to Minister of the Interior. Oporto,
May 31, 1854.*

Précis.—In accordance with instructions from the Home Department, has proceeded to examine all the different persons pointed out as in any way connected with, or having any knowledge of, the equipment of the “*Guerra*” and “*Trajana*,” and notwithstanding all the efforts employed to find out whether

these vessels were intended for a slaving voyage, no clue has been obtained towards the discovery of the truth by means of these examinations, and of the information received from different sources, as shown by the annexed documents.

Document No. 1.

Sebastião Jose da Cunha Carmo, Captain of the "*Guerra*," declared, that on 10th November, 1853, his vessel being then ready for sea, and cleared by the police, he came on shore to set his chronometer, which had stopped; that in the meantime the vessel sailed out in the direction of Vianna; that on the following day he went by land to Vianna, intending there to embark, and take the command of the vessel, the state of the weather, however, prevented her from entering that port, and he stayed at the house of the consignee, José Caetano da Silva, till the 20th, when he returned to Oporto. That the crew consisted of fourteen men including himself; that the water taken in was only sufficient for the crew on their voyage; that she was ballasted with stones, had on board some stores and provisions, some wine, and some closed cases, contents unknown to him, but which came on board with the custom-house clearance and with the manifest, under a sealed cover, addressed to the Director of the Custom-house, at Vianna; that all his clothes, charts, and nautical instruments, &c., went in the vessel; that the owner, Manuel Francisco Cardozo, was on board, and caused the vessel to sail without him, saying that he would come off in a boat; but this he was unable to do on account of the weather, and for that reason he had gone to Vianna.

Document No. 2.

Senhor Antonio Ferreira da Silva, merchant and landowner, a Brazilian subject resident in this city, declared, that he knew nothing about the vessels "*Guerra*," and "*Trajana*," further than what was mentioned in the public journals.

Document No. 3.

João Faneca, a boatman, declared that he knew nothing about the crews of these vessels, their cargo or victualling, and only knew that they were built at Villa Nova de Gaia.

Document No. 4.

Rodrigo Antonio Lopes, the pilot that piloted the "*Trajana*," declared that the crew consisted of from twelve to fourteen men, which was the usual number or a vessel of her class; that he had no further information to offer.

Document No. 5.

Antonio Joaquin de Souza Carvalho, pilot on board the "*Trajana*," declared, that the crew consisted of about thirteen men; that he had nothing further to state as it was not his business to inquire into other particulars.

Document No. 6.

João Martins de Carvalho, the pilot that piloted the "*Guerra*," declared, that the crew consisted of about twelve men; that with regard to passengers he knew nothing, as he had not left the deck; that he had made no inquiries and therefore had nothing further to state.

Document No. 7.

José Mouthino de Souza, pilot on board the "*Guerra*," declared, that the crew consisted of about twelve or fourteen men; that the Captain was not on board when the vessel sailed; that it was said he was going by land to Vianna, there to embark; that the vessel sailed by order of the cashier or consignee, who was on board at the time of sailing. That he knew nothing respecting the water, cargo, or stores of the vessel.

Document No. 8.

José Pinto da Costa, junior, a wine-merchant, and owner of a cooperage at Villa Nova de Gaia, declared that Bernardo Jose Machado, a merchant of

Oporto, had ordered from him 28 pipes including 4 casks holding each 4 pipes, for the "*Guerra*," and 24 pipes, including also 4 casks for the "*Trajana*;" and that he knew nothing further respecting the equipment of these vessels.

Document No. 9.

Carlos Joaquim d'Azevedo Varêta, shipbuilder, declared that he had built the "*Guerra*" by order of Bernardo José Machado, a merchant of Oporto, who said she was for a fruit vessel; that he had never built a slaver, but that he knew how they were built; the "*Guerra*" was not built so; that since the vessel was launched he had not been on board of her; and that he had nothing further to declare.

Document No. 10.

José Francisco dos Santos, ironmaster, declared, that by order of Bernardo José Machado, he had made all the iron work required for the "*Guerra*," and he had also made the necessary iron work for the "*Trajana*" by order of the builder, Custodio Martins da Silva Santos; that this iron-work was such as is usually made for new vessels, viz., nails, bolts, ring-bolts, thimbles, &c.; and that no chains or handcuffs were made by him, nor did he know that such had been made at any other place.

Document No. 11.

Gaspar da Cunha Luna, Bachelor of Arts, Director of the Massarellos Foundry, declared, that from September to November last, that foundry had made three pieces of chain for bob-stays, and a cooking-range for the "*Trajana*," that another range was also made there for the "*Guerra*;" that this was the whole of the iron-work supplied from said foundry to these vessels.

Document No. 12.

José Joaquim dos Santos, magistrate of the parish of Santa Marinha de Villa Nova de Gaia, stated, that two individuals from his parish had sailed in these vessels, one named Narcizo, a foundling, the other named Ermenigildo de Pernambuco, a native of Oporto; both had been engaged by the Captain of the "*Guerra*," and it was said by some ferrymen, that they were engaged to go to the coast of Africa; that these ferrymen had also gone to sea subsequently.

Document No. 13.

Joaquim José Pinto, a farmer of Avintes, stated, that his son, Manuel Jose Pinto, sailed in the "*Guerra*," saying, that he was going to the Islands, and from thence to Brazil; that he had not heard of him since.

Document No. 14.

Anna de Jesus, of the parish of Valboim, wife of João dos Santos, a mariner, declared that her husband had gone to sea about five months since; did not know in what vessel; that he said he was going to the Islands and from thence to Rio Grande; he never said, that he was going to the coast of Africa or to Angola; that he left her no money.

Document No. 15.

Maria da Cruz, a widow, and mother to Pedro da Silva, declared, that in the beginning of December her son came home, and said, that his ship was to sail soon, and that if he did not return that day it was a sign that he had sailed; that he had left her no money.

Document No. 16.

Anna da Silva, daughter to Maria da Cruz, and sister to Pedro da Silva, repeated the above declaration.

Document No. 17.

Gaspar Gonçalves de Castro, magistrate of the parish of Santa Christovão de Mafamude, stated, that three individuals from his parish had sailed in these vessels, namely, Antonio Fernandes d'Oliveira, Domingos de Sá, and Francisco

dos Reis; that the first had received from the captain 13,000 reis, on account of his wages; this he gave to his mother; the second received 9,600 reis; the third received nothing; that the mother of Francisco dos Reis had said, that her son was gone to the coast of Africa.

Document No. 18.

Rosa de Jesus, a widow, of the parish of Santa Christovão, declared, that her son, Francisco Perreira dos Reis, was engaged to go in the "*Trajana*;" that she did not know where it was bound to; that she had received no money from her son.

Document No. 19.

Maria de Jesus declared, that on the 16th November, her son Antonio Fernandes, went to sea; she did not know the name of the vessel; that her son said he was going to Australia; that the mate told him he was going to a cold country, and gave him first 9,600 reis, and afterwards half a sovereign to buy warm clothes; did not know the name of the mate; has not heard since of her son.

Document No. 20.

Maria Roza de Sá, declared, that her son sailed in the same vessel with Antonio Fernandes; did not know the name of the vessel; had heard they were going to Australia; did not know who engaged him; that he received 9,600 reis, but gave her nothing.

Document No. 21.

David Hargreaves, a British subject, formerly director of the Bicalho Foundry, stated that in October and November of 1853, the said foundry supplied the "*Guerra*" with various articles of iron and brass work, as also to the "*Trajana*;" these were ordered by the captains of the vessels respectively, and the accounts were paid by Bernardo José Machado, a merchant of Oporto.

Document No. 22.—Director of Oporto Custom House to Civil Governor of Oporto. March 11, 1854.

Précis.—Vessels sailing for Brazil, or for ports of the kingdom, have custom-house guards on board only when their cargo consists of re-exportation goods, which was not the case with the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*;" therefore no information can be obtained through this medium.

Document No. 23.—Administrator of 3rd Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto. April 8, 1854.

Transmitting despatches of the several magistrates with information respecting the crews of the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajana*."

Document No. 24.

Magistrate of the parish of Foz states, that no person from his parish had sailed in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*."

Document No. 25.

Magistrate of the parish of Lordello do Ouro states, that the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajana*," were built at Villa Nova de Gaia, and not at Ribeira do Ouro.

Document No. 26.

Magistrate of the parish of Massarelos states, that only one individual from his parish was engaged to form part of the crews of the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*," by name Antonio José Machado; his wife refused to answer any questions.

Document No. 27.

Magistrate of the parish of Miragaia states, that to his knowledge, none of the inhabitants of his parish had sailed in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*;" and that he has not been able to collect any information.

Document No. 28.

Magistrate of the parish of S. Nicolan states, that he could not discover that any of the residents of his parish had sailed in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*;" was informed that the crews and captains were engaged in Lisbon, with the exception of three men, of which two were taken from the "*Rapida*," and the third was a resident at Massarellos.

Document No. 29.

Administrator of the district of Bonças states, that not a single person was engaged from that district for the crews of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*."

Document No. 30.

Magistrate of the parish of Matosinhos states, that no person was engaged for the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*" from his parish.

Document No. 31.

Administrator of the district of Gaia states, that not a single mariner was engaged from the parish of Avintes for the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*."

Document No. 32.

Magistrate of the parish of Avintes states, that no person had left his parish to go to sea in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*."

No. 317.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo,* inclosing a copy of a note which, in compliance with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 14th of June, you addressed on the 22nd June to the Viscount d'Athoguia, calling his Excellency's attention to the recent shipments of slaves from the Portuguese possessions of Bissao and Cacheu, and suggesting the establishment of a system of registration of slaves in the Cape Verd Islands; and I have, in reply, to inform you that I approve your note of the 22nd ultimo to Viscount d'Athoguia on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 318.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 25.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, July 18, 1854.

WITHIN the last few days the Portuguese Ministers have again been taken to task in the Chamber of Peers on account of things which are said to have occurred on the coast of Africa, showing a want of efficiency on the part of the local authorities in fulfilling the obligations of this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It is reported, on the faith of a letter lately received from Loanda, that a Portuguese colonial vessel, called the "*Trindade*," had been captured by one of Her Majesty's cruizers, bound for one of the Portuguese islands, and having on board a number of negroes; and that it had been attempted to justify the irregularity so committed by the exception contained in Article V of the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, by which the right is reserved to Portuguese settlers, removing from one Portuguese possession to another, to take with them, in

* No. 315.

certain cases, as many as 10 slaves, provided that such slaves be *bonâ fide* domestic servants.

It was very properly observed by the Marquis de Vallada, in the discussion to which I refer, that it would require but a little laxness or connivance on the part of the public authorities, in issuing the papers required to legalize these operations, to make the exceptional provision contained in Article V of the Treaty a cover for slave-trading to any extent.

The Viscount d'Athoguia stated in reply, that the Government had received no authentic or official account of the capture of any colonial vessel by a British cruizer, but that a protest had been made at Loanda by the British Commissioners against abuses which were attempted to be committed under favour of Article V of the Treaty, and he promised to lay before the Chamber, without loss of time, any further or more precise information which might reach him respecting the transactions referred to.

It must be very painful to Her Majesty's Government to hear of the repeated instances which have lately been brought to light of the successful evasion of the laws and engagements of this country for the prevention of the Slave Trade, particularly after the progress which seemed to have been made towards the complete extinction of that Traffic and its attendant abominations.

No. 319.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose a translation of a note from the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to one which, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of 31st May,* I addressed to his Excellency on the 13th of last month, pointing out the reduced state of the Portuguese naval force on the west coast, and recommending that measures might be taken to restore it to a state of greater efficiency. A copy of my note of 13th June was transmitted with my despatch of the 18th June.

Your Lordship will perceive from the Viscount d'Athoguia's answer, that he promises, notwithstanding the defective condition of the Portuguese navy and the limited resources at the disposal of the Government, that every effort shall be made to reinforce the station of Angola with one more ship of war.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 319.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, July 12, 1854.

HAVING brought to the knowledge of the Marine Department the contents of the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 13th June last, in which, by order of your Government, you represented the necessity for the reinforcement of the Portuguese naval station at Angola for the prevention of the Slave Trade, in accordance with the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain, I have the honour to state to you, that on the 30th of June it was communicated to me through that Department, that,

notwithstanding the deficient state of the Portuguese navy and the small means at disposal, every effort will be made to reinforce that station with some other vessel of war.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 320.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 18, 1854.

I HAVE reason to hope that after the close of the present session of the Cortes, the Portuguese Government will at length issue a Decree for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions,—a measure which has been often talked of in this country, and much desired by Her Majesty's Government, although hitherto without effect.

Your Lordship is aware, that according to the constitutional arrangements of Portugal, power is reserved to the Government to introduce measures of a legislative character for the colonies when the Cortes are not in session, subject always to the ultimate approval of the Chambers.

This, I understand, is the course which the Government propose to adopt with reference to the Decree for the registration of slaves; and it is certainly a safer and more expeditious way of proceeding, than to expose the measure to the delays and vicissitudes attending its progress through the Cortes, according to the usual forms of legislation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 321.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant,* reporting that the attention of the Portuguese Ministry had been called in the Chambers of Peers to a recent case of connivance on the part of the authorities of Loanda, in a slave-trading transaction.

I have to instruct you to inform the Viscount d'Athoguia of the extreme regret with which Her Majesty's Government learn these repeated instances of the revival of the Slave Trade in the dominions of His Most Faithful Majesty. You will state that Her Majesty's Government do not for a moment suppose that such outrages on humanity, and violations of Treaty engagements, are sanctioned by the Portuguese Government; but, on the other hand, they cannot doubt, that if greater care were observed in the selection of colonial authorities, if greater vigour were displayed in the prevention of the Slave Trade, and less favour shown to notorious or detected criminals who have been guilty of dealing in slaves, the good faith of Portugal would not now be called in question; nor would it be the painful duty of Her Majesty's Government to protest against the Traffic in human beings, which is once more actively carried on in Portuguese possessions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 322.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant,* and I have in reply to inform you that Her Majesty's Government learn with satisfaction the intention of the Portuguese Government, stated in Viscount d'Athoguia's note of the 12th instant, to reinforce their squadron on the west coast of Africa by another ship of war.

You will report to me whether a vessel is sent for that purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 323.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant,† stating that you have reason to hope that the Portuguese Government will, after the close of the present session of the Cortes, issue a Decree for the registration of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal.

The enactment of such a Decree would afford Her Majesty's Government great satisfaction; and I have to desire, that on the closing of the Cortes, you will remind the Portuguese Government of their expressed intention with regard to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 324.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, inclosing a copy of a communication which they had received from the Government of Angola with reference to certain discussions between themselves and the Governor of that province; and I have to instruct you to bring this paper before the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to state that it is very painful to Her Majesty's Government to receive, and to have to remonstrate against, these constant proofs of the unwillingness of the Portuguese authorities to aid in the suppression of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 325.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 24.)

My Lord,

Cintra, August 18, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 12th instant to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 29th July.

* No. 319.

† No. 320.

‡ Class A, No. 65.

I have fulfilled the instruction contained in your Lordship's first despatch of that date* by expressing to the Viscount d'Athoguia, in the words made use of by your Lordship, the regret with which Her Majesty's Government have heard of the repeated instances which have lately been noticed of the revival of the Slave Trade in the Portuguese dominions, with the supposed connivance of the local authorities.

The instructions contained in your Lordship's other despatches of the same date shall likewise be fulfilled on the first opportunity.

I have &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 326.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 25, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th of November, 1853,† communicating the refusal of the Portuguese Government to accede to the proposal made by Her Majesty's Government to remove, at their own expense, from Angola to a British colony, the negroes who have been liberated by the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission Court at Loanda, I have to inform you that I transmitted a copy of your despatch in question to Sir George Jackson, and I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Sir George Jackson in reply, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between himself and the Governor-General of Angola upon this subject.

I am &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 327.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch§ which I have received from Sir George Jackson, Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioner at Loanda, inclosing copies of a correspondence which took place between him and the President of the Provisional Government of Angola, respecting the reconstruction of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes at Loanda, which had become necessary upon the retirement of the Viscount de Pinheiro; and I have to inform you that I have approved Sir George Jackson's proceedings in that matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 328.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 3.)

(Extract.)

Cintra, August, 28, 1854.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th July,|| that I should report to your Lordship whether a vessel had been dispatched to reinforce the Portuguese squadron on the coast of Africa, as promised by Viscount d'Athoguia's note of 12th July;

* No. 321.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 335.

‡ Class A, No. 95.

§ Class A, No. 96.

|| No. 322.

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that I find upon inquiry that no vessel has yet been sent on that service, there being at this moment no suitable vessel disposable or in a state of efficiency; but there are two small vessels, the “*Mondego*,” and the “*Villa Flor*,” now under repair in the Tagus, and the Viscount d’Athoguia informs me, that as soon as one of those vessels can be got ready it shall be sent to the west coast of Africa for the purpose desired by your Lordship.

No. 329.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord,

Cintra, August 28, 1854.

I HAVE not failed to fulfil the orders contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th July,* respecting the proposed measure of providing for the registration of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal; and I am assured that the Portuguese Government are seriously engaged, in conjunction with the Ultra-Marine Council, in preparing a Decree on the subject, with a view to its promulgation before the next meeting of the Cortes.

I hope that in the course of a few days, I shall have an opportunity of ascertaining more particularly what are the provisions of this Decree, in order to be able to communicate them to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 330.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 7, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of February last,† I transmit to you a copy of a despatch‡ from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, respecting their relations with the Provincial Government of Angola, and respecting the expulsion of Flores. And I have to call your attention to a passage in that despatch, in which it is stated that Viscount de Pinheiro, having heard that a Portaria was about to be issued, ordering the expulsion of Flores, had, before his relinquishing the Government of Angola, furnished him with a passport enabling him to leave Loanda when he thought proper.

I have to instruct you to make inquiry into the truth of this statement, and to report to me the result of your investigations; should it prove to be correct, you will call the attention of the Portuguese Government thereto.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 331.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Cintra, September 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 1st of this month to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 26th of August.

In fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I will communicate to the Viscount d'Athoguia the information transmitted by Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, relative to the intention of Senhor Souza and Almeida to abandon his scheme for transporting a hundred of his slaves from Benguella to Prince's Island, by virtue of a privilege granted to him by the Portuguese Government, and this because he has been advised that it would be more for his advantage to buy slaves in Prince's Island than to transport them thither from Benguella.

* No. 323. † See Class B, presented 1854, No. 377. ‡ See Class A, No. 68.
CLASS B. 2 Y

It is now some time since the Viscount d'Athoguia told me, that he also had heard that it was not his (Senhor Souza's) intention to act upon the privilege which had been granted to him, because he had ascertained that it was not likely to be remunerative.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 332.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, the copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape Verd Islands, reporting that a number of slaves, whom he supposes to have been newly imported ones, had been sold by auction in the public square of Porto Praia; and I have to instruct you to urge the Portuguese Government to make an immediate and searching inquiry respecting this disgraceful occurrence, and to punish the parties concerned.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 333.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose translations of a note and its inclosure, which I have received from the Viscount d'Athoguia, purporting to be in answer to my notes of the 16th May and 13th June last (of which copies were transmitted with my despatch of the 18th June), communicating the information which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, relative to certain embarkations of negroes on a large scale which had taken place in the Portuguese Province of Benguella.

The papers which accompany Viscount d'Athoguia's note, appear to me to relate to the very transactions reported to your Lordship by Her Majesty's Commissioners in their despatches of the 23rd and 30th of March last, and to furnish distressing confirmation of the extent to which the Slave Trade is now carried on in the Province of Benguella; and, if confidence is to be placed in the statements of the Lieutenant-Governor of that province, of the inadequate means at his disposal to repress these criminal operations.

Your Lordship will perceive that the concluding part of the Viscount d'Athoguia's note contains fresh assurances of the desire of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to follow the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the character of the officer to be appointed to the vacant Governorship of Angola, adding, that the officer now temporarily acting in that capacity is a person whose integrity and intelligence no one has yet dared to call in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 333.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, September 9, 1854.

IN answer to the notes which you were pleased to address to me on the 16th May and 13th June last, relative to the increase which you say the Slave Trade has assumed in the Province of Angola, and in which you express, by order of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, the necessity which exists that the Governor who may be appointed to that province should be a person of such

character and energy as to deprive the slave-traders of the hope of being able to continue their criminal speculations, I have the honour to place in your hands the inclosed extracts and copies of some official letters from the Governor-General of that province, and from the Governor of Benguella, which were transmitted to me through the Department of Marine, with the documents to which they refer, copies of which are herewith inclosed.

From the contents of these papers you will perceive, that if in reality that odious commerce has there increased, through the means of which the traders in human flesh have availed themselves, the respective authorities have not on this account omitted to take all the measures within their reach to prevent it, as it was their duty.

With respect to the nomination of a new Governor-General, possessed of the qualifications above pointed out, I can assure you, Sir, that His Majesty's Government will not neglect to take into due consideration the advice which you give by order of your Government, when this nomination takes place, although the officer now temporarily charged with that Government is a person whose integrity and intelligence no one has yet dared to call in question.

I take, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the Delegate of the Attorney-General.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir,

Governor's Office, Benguella, February 7, 1854.

IT being generally affirmed that the following individuals, Ignacio Pereira de Macedo, José Antonio Fernandes, Francisco Antonio Monteiro, and one called João Verde, absented themselves from this city, or some part within its jurisdiction, without passports, there being strong reasons for believing that they sailed in the vessels that lately shipped slaves to the south of Benguella; and convinced that it is not possible to obtain sufficient proofs for the due punishment of these smugglers, and in order that they may not shortly return with impunity to the city;

The Governor determines that you should legally investigate the clandestine absence of the said individuals; and if it be proved to be such, to accuse them of a public crime, the accusation to remain open till such time as it prescribes by law.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CASEMIRO SERVIOES MARGIOCHI,
Secretary.

Inclosure 3 in No. 333.

The late Governor of the Province of Angola to the Governor of Benguella.

(Extract.)

(Translation.)

February 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency the inclosed copy of a despatch which I have caused to be addressed to the Delegate of the Attorney-General in this district, instructing him to proceed to a legal investigation respecting the clandestine departure from this city, or from some parts of the coast within its jurisdiction, of the four individuals therein mentioned, there being every reason to believe that they sailed in the vessels that lately took in slaves to the southward of this city; and as it is not possible to obtain proofs for the judicial condemnation of the principals in those illicit and pernicious speculations, that at least their unknown and inferior agents may not return with impunity to the very country in which they committed these delinquencies. This is the end I had in view in ordering this legal proceeding. There is a rumour of a fresh embarkation of slaves having been effected to the south.

Inclosure 4 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the late Governor of the Province of Angola.

(Extract.)

(Translation.)

March 3, 1854.

THE shipment of slaves which I mentioned to your Excellency in my despatch of 11th ultimo as extremely likely, took place on the 23rd ultimo from the beach of Limage, where the two last shipments were also effected. It is said, that the brig "Serra do Pilar" was off that place on the 22nd, and the slaver was only a few miles to the south. The latter would have been taken, if the brig had held on in that direction a little longer, which unfortunately she did not. I will furnish your Excellency with further details later, as I expect to obtain more certain information, and as at present the state of my health will not allow me to write much. Yesterday I caused all the disposable force to proceed to Dombe Grande, as the Chief of that place asked for assistance against a band of natives. I am this day informed, however, that they were few in number, and that they were repelled. This despatch will be sent by the schooner "Gratidão." The schooner "Conselho" and the polaque "Esperança" are still in the south.

Inclosure 5 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the Governor of the Province of Angola.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Benguella, March 21, 1854.

LAST night about 400 slaves left this city, on the road to Dombe Grande, and in the direction of the south coast, destined to be exported beyond the sea. I was informed of this at about midnight, they having left about an hour since. I immediately caused all the disposable force to follow them; and at the same time I sent an express to Dombe, to instruct the Chief of that place to oppose the passage of the party. A soldier who has just arrived on service from that district, informs me, that he met the party of slaves at Quipopa, about half way between this city and Dombe; that the mounted express was very near upon them, and would pass on before them by another road, as he was instructed; and that finally the troops were about three leagues in their rear. Owing to the slow progress of the manacled slaves, I trust that they will be overtaken, and that justice will be enabled to make an example, in order to suppress these scandalous proceedings. But as this plan might fail, it became therefore necessary to send by sea to stop the embarkation of the slaves. The schooner "Conselho" had arrived here on the same night (20th instant), having sailed from Mossamedes on the 15th. She was to proceed to-day to Loanda, but I considered it absolutely necessary to send her again to the south, to cruise at the place where the projected embarkation would be likely to take place, till such time as the brig "Serra do Pilar" should arrive, which you tell me in your despatch of the 1st instant will be shortly. The above-mentioned schooner has sailed on this service. I sent in her the Second Lieutenant Campina to assist her Commander, he being the best acquainted with the coast. To bring all these occurrences to your Excellency's knowledge, I am about to despatch a state launch to that city. With a troubled spirit at the sight of the unbridled increase of this most fatal passion for the Traffic in Slaves, and with a broken body, owing to the hard labour which I have undergone in opposing it, although up to the present with but little success, it would be very consoling to me, that your Excellency should believe in my zeal, and excuse any error of judgment which I may commit through it.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE R. COELHO DO AMARAL.

Inclosure 6 in No. 333.

The Governor-General of the Province of Angola to the Department of Marine.

(Extract.)

(Translation.)

March 23, 1854.

FROM the inclosed copy of an official letter which I have just received from the Governor of Benguella, your Excellency will perceive, that on the 23rd of February last, another embarkation of slaves took place at Port of Limage, notwithstanding that all possible pains were taken to prevent it, not only by making use of the scanty means which I have at my disposal, but even by giving notice to the ships of the British naval station of the suspicions which I entertained, in order that we might both in common exert ourselves in frustrating the views of the smugglers, as, in fact, took place, without unfortunately obtaining the desired result. Of all these occurrences, I have given your Excellency circumstantial information in my preceding confidential despatches, to the contents of which I again beg leave to request your Excellency's attention, because this affair is becoming more and more serious, and there being near 2000 leagues distance unprovided with the necessary elements to understand exactly what may be the conduct of the public functionaries of this province. The successive realization of such undertakings must affect more or less the credit of the same functionaries, who in this way labour under unmerited censure, on account of their supposed want of activity, or neglect on their part.

From the copies to which the inclosed despatch refers, your Excellency will perceive, that already the requisite proceedings have been undertaken at Benguella, against the persons suspected of connivance at the last shipments, but simply from circumstances as yet ill confirmed. Nevertheless, I hope that these proceedings will have some influence in arresting the rapid progress which this illegal Traffic was assuming.

Inclosure 7 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the Governor of the Province of Angola.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Benguella, March 24, 1854.

THE brig-of-war the "Moçambique" arrived here this day, at 3 P.M., from Lisbon, in 107 days, having touched at St. Jago de Cabo Verde and Mossamedes; she proceeds to-morrow to Loanda. I avail myself of this opportunity to inform your Excellency, with reference to the subject of my confidential despatch of the 21st instant, that 105 of the slaves of the troop which left Benguella for Dombe Grande, and which I had caused to be followed by a military force, were taken as stated in the said despatch. Two of the conductors, who are white men, and clerks to merchants in this city, were also apprehended with the slaves.

The other two conductors were enabled to escape, together with some of the slaves, as they were at some distance from the prisoners, and were informed of their capture.

This affair is in the hands of the judicial authorities. A launch was also taken, conveying slaves from Novo Redondo, or from the vicinity of that fort, to the south. The authorities have also taken cognizance of this transgression. All these facts, confirm the rumours which I was convinced were true, of the presence of a vessel on the coast waiting to take in slaves. It does not appear to me, that either the capture of the 105 slaves, or the sailing of the schooner "Conselho" to the south, are serious obstacles to the realization of that criminal enterprise. According to information which I can depend upon, it appears that there are already slaves collected at the point of embarkation, and that several launches have passed to the south with slaves, coming like the one that was captured, from the direction of Novo Redondo and Quicombo. Therefore, I have no doubt that the slaver will have already completed her shipment by the time the schooner "Conselho" arrives there. All this renders it my duty to urge the necessity of sending the "Serra do Pilar" or another vessel if possible,

and if the shipment which is going on cannot be prevented, which is unfortunately too probable, future shipments may at least be prevented, for I have reason to believe, that the slave-dealers are disposed to profit by the complete absence of cruisers, both national and English, to carry on their enterprises with facility.

I have not yet been able to dispatch the launch "Quinze de Maio" owing to the want of repairs for enabling her to carry the gun, and other requirements for the service to which she is destined. I am, however, actively engaged in getting her ready. It would be well if another midshipman was sent to command her, as Carlos F. P. d'Almeida's services cannot be spared from Loanda.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE RODRIGUES COELHO DO AMARAL.

Inclosure 8 in No. 333.

The Provisional Government of Angola to the Department of Marine.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir.

Loanda, March 31, 1854.

IN continuation of the confidential despatch addressed to your Excellency by this Government on the 23rd instant, we have the honour to place in your Excellency's hands, the inclosed copies of the Governor of Benguella's despatches, dated the 21st and 24th respectively, from which your Excellency will perceive, that unfortunately, the criminal attempts at illegal Traffic are still continued to the south of this city, and, that a lot of slaves numbering about 400 having left Benguella, in the direction of Dombe Grande, the Governor of that district as soon as he knew of the departure of so large a number of slaves from the city, had taken such prompt measures that he was enabled to capture 105 of them, and two of the conductors, the others having escaped; and that finally this affair as well as that of the capture of a launch conveying slaves from Novo Redondo, or from the vicinity of that fort, to the south, are already in the hands of the judicial power, to be proceeded with according to law.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

BISHOP OF ANGOLA.
FAUSTINO DOS SANTOS CRESPU.
JOAO JACINTO TAVARES.

No. 334.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, copy of a despatch* and of its inclosures, which I have received from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the shipment of a number of slaves on board a transport belonging to the Government of Angola, and calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to this infraction of the Slave Trade Treaty of 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal. I also transmit to you a copy of the reply† which, after consulting the proper Law Officer of the Crown, I have returned to the Commissioners; and I have to instruct you to call the serious attention of the Portuguese Government to a state of things so disgraceful, as well as at variance with the Treaty, and which, Her Majesty's Government are convinced, must therefore be unknown to them, but which should immediately, and in the most public manner, be put an end to.

Her Majesty's Government trust, that the highly proper conduct which Senhor Rodovalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station at Loanda, is stated by the Commissioners to have pursued in this matter, may be approved by his Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Class A, No. 64.

† Ibid., No. 70.

No. 335.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 16.)

My Lord,

Cintra, October 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 2nd of this month to receive your Lordship's despatch of 26th September, with its inclosures, relating to the shipment of a number of slaves on board a transport belonging to the Government of Angola, which scandalous infraction of the Treaty between the two countries is represented by Her Majesty's Commissioner to have been committed with the express and avowed consent of the persons provisionally charged with the Government of Angola.

I have addressed a note to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your Lordship's instructions upon this subject, and in this note I have not failed to claim the attention of the Portuguese Government to the highly proper conduct which Senhor Rodovalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station at Loanda, is stated by the Commissioner to have pursued in the transactions referred to, and which forms such a contrast to that of the other superior authorities of the colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 336.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 18, 1854.

SOME progress appears at length to have been made in the organisation of the company for the settlement and improvement of the Province of Mozambique, of the intended establishment of which company I had the honour to inform Her Majesty's Government by my despatch of 28th June, 1853.*

I have now before me a rough copy in print, of the report of the committee appointed to represent the Government in coming to an understanding with the promoters of the scheme, as to the terms of the intended grant, the privileges and obligations of the company, and other such details; and also the draft of the agreement which it is proposed to conclude with the company upon all these points, and which will form what may be called the charter of the association.

I find the projected enterprise to be much more comprehensive and important than I had at first been led to suppose, as it contemplates nothing less than the cession to the company for a term of ninety-nine years of the administration and possession of the entire Province of Mozambique, somewhat upon the principle of our East India Company.

The capital is in the first instance to be 1,000,000*l.* sterling, divided into 50,000 shares of 20*l.* each, with power to double the amount if it should be found expedient.

The professed object of the company is "to colonize and civilize the East African possessions of Portugal, by the propagation of the Faith, the effective abolition of the Slave Trade, the progressive emancipation of the slaves already existing, until they shall all have been made free, and by education and the development of industry and commerce in all their branches."

I have read over, with a good deal of attention, the proposed Articles of agreement between the Portuguese Government and the company, and I do not find anything in them to which I think Her Majesty's Government would be disposed to object; but there is an omission which it is fit that I should mention to your Lordship, namely, that nothing is said in this charter or contract as to the intercourse of foreign countries with the Province of Mozambique under the contemplated change, nor as to how far the obligations of existing Treaties are to be considered binding on the company, in as

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 299.

far as they may be applicable to the case; for I presume that, inasmuch as the Sovereignty of the Portuguese Crown over the territory of Mozambique is not alienated by the proposed new order of things, the company will still be bound, in matters of trade and navigation, and in every thing relating to the security of foreigners and their property, by the stipulations of Treaties antecedent to the grant now about to be made.

I am sorry that it is not in my power, owing to the indisposition of Mr. Henderson, our translator, to transmit copies and translations of the papers referred to in this despatch, by the present packet, but I hope to be able to forward them to your Lordship by an early opportunity.

As to the probable success of this bold and comprehensive undertaking, I will not venture to offer an opinion; but it strikes me that two serious difficulties at least are likely to beset the company at the beginning of its operations: the first, that of raising the necessary amount of capital to set the company a-going; the second, that of finding persons possessing sufficient intelligence, energy, and integrity, successfully to manage the company's affairs, at such a distance from home, and in a country which, from its geographical position, must be so little congenial to European constitutions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 337.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch,* with its inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Rendall, Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape Verd Islands, reporting that a slaver, with 550 slaves on board, had touched at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, and, after remaining there nine days taking in water, had sailed for the Havana.

I have to instruct you to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to Mr. Rendall's statement that Terrafal de Monte Trigo is a favourite resort of slavers, and to press strongly upon them the adoption of Mr. Rendall's recommendation that a fort should be established on the bay for the purpose of checking such piratical proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 338.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 28, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of 9th July, and to my despatches of the 18th July and 28th August, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Viscount Sá da Bandeira, President of the Ultra-Marine Council, has had the goodness to show me the draft of the Decree which is about to be published for the registration of slaves, and, what is still better, their eventual emancipation in the Portuguese Colonies.

According to this Decree the registration of slaves is to take place immediately after the publication of the Decree in the respective colonies, after which day all children of slave-parents will be free from the moment of their birth.

The process by which the emancipation of persons now in a state of slavery is to be accomplished is rather a curious one.

According to the law of Portugal, when any property is taken possession of for the service of the State, or for an object of public utility, the owner is

indemnified at the rate of twenty years' value of such property. Adopting this principle on the one hand, and on the other, seeing that the condition of the Portuguese finances is not such as to enable the Government to indemnify the owners in money for the emancipation of their slaves, it is proposed to carry the indemnification into effect by allowing the owner the use of his slaves, subject to registration and to the superintendence of a Board of Guardians, for fourteen years, the slaves to be then declared absolutely free, and payment to be made to the owners, in money, for the estimated value of the slaves' labour for the remaining term of six years, so as to complete the twenty years' purchase contemplated by law.

It is presumed that at the expiration of fourteen years, one-third of the slave population now in existence will have disappeared in the course of nature, and that the pecuniary compensation to be then paid for the estimated value of the slaves' labour for the remaining six years will not amount to such a sum as to make it inconvenient to the country to provide for it.

Such, my Lord, I think are the leading provisions of this important measure—one which Her Majesty's Government, as well as the friends of humanity in this country, have long wished to see adopted, and which I hope your Lordship will now, in a short time, have the satisfaction of seeing carried into effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 339.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 28, 1854.

IN fulfilment of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th July,* I have again inquired of the Viscount d'Athoguia how soon it is likely that he will be able to dispatch a reinforcement to the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa; and he tells me, that the repairs of the brig "Villa Flor" are now nearly completed, and that he hopes to be able to send her away in the course of a few days, to be followed by another small vessel as soon as she can be got ready.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 340.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo,† stating that the Portuguese Government is about to publish a Decree providing for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonies, and for their eventual emancipation.

I have to instruct you to inform the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have received the intelligence with great satisfaction, and that they desire to congratulate the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty upon the adoption of this wise and liberal decision, which they trust will be attended with all the happy results which it is eminently calculated to produce.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 341.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 7, 1854,

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction that the Viscount d'Athoguia hopes shortly to be able to reinforce the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 342.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 7, 1854.

I HAVE duly fulfilled the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th October, which I had the honour to receive on the 2nd of this month, by communicating to the Portuguese Government the papers therewith inclosed, relative to the appearance of a slave-trading vessel at a remote part in the Island of St. Antonio, Cape de Verds; which occurrence, as well as the perfect security with which this vessel was enabled to remain in a Portuguese harbour for nine days, receiving a supply of provisions and water, seemed to your Lordship to suggest the expediency of establishing a military port or fort, near to the Bay of Terrafal de Monte de Trigo, to prevent that bay from being made use of as a place of refuge and refreshment for vessels engaged in the Slave Trade.

Having heard from my colleague the Brazilian Minister that a person had arrived at Lisbon, by the Portuguese steam-packet "Donna Maria Segunda" which lately touched at the Cape de Verds, and who was suspected to be the one mentioned in Mr. Consul Rendall's letter to the Military Governor of St. Vincent's, as having landed from the slaver at the Bay of Terrafal, and whom the Military Governor of St. Vincent's had determined to detain until the pleasure of the Governor-General respecting him should be ascertained, I proceeded with my Brazilian colleague to call the attention of the Viscount d'Athoguia to this circumstance, in order that proper inquiry might be made as to how a person so evidently implicated in a slave-trading enterprise had been allowed by the Governor-General to quit the Island of St. Vincent, and to prosecute his voyage to Lisbon with impunity; but I have not yet heard the result of the investigation which the Viscount d'Athoguia promised to set on foot respecting this occurrence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 343.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th instant, in which you state that you had called the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact, that a slaver had been allowed to remain unmolested for some days at the Island of St. Antonio, Cape Verds; and that you had requested that an inquiry might be made into the circumstances under which a person

supposed to be connected with that vessel had been allowed by the Governor-General of the Cape Verds to proceed to Lisbon; and I have to state to you that I approve the manner in which you have executed my instruction on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 344.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of September, and to your reply thereto of the 8th ultimo, on the subject of the shipment of slaves at Angola on board a Government transport, I transmit to you herewith for your information a copy of a letter which I have received from Commander Phillips, Royal Navy, late of Her Majesty's ship "Polyphemus" containing remarks on the manner in which the Treaty of 1842 is evaded at Loanda by field negroes being made to pass as domestic slaves, and being so conveyed in Portuguese transports to St. Thomas's; and I have to instruct you to address a further note upon this subject to the Portuguese Government, in which you will adopt the suggestions contained in Commander Phillips's letter, and urge them to take the necessary measures to prevent an improper use being made of the Portuguese flag by the colonial transports, which appear to claim the privileges legitimately belonging to vessels of the Royal Navy only.

I also inclose a copy of an advertisement published in an official Gazette at Angola, which has been sent to me by Captain Phillips, and of which you will make use in your communication to the Portuguese Government, as showing that the vessels which the Portuguese naval officers command are merely merchant-vessels.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 344.

Commander Phillips to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Greenwich Park, November 11, 1854.

I BEG most respectfully to submit to your consideration a few remarks that have occurred to me during recent service on the west coast of Africa, in command of one of Her Majesty's steamers of war.

2. The first fact I would call attention to, is the practice lately adopted by the Portuguese Colonial Government of Angola, by which the stringent regulations for the removal of domestic or household slaves by sea, laid down in Article V of our suppression Treaty with that country, are evaded and violated, and field slaves (*escravos do campo*) contrary to the intentions of the said Treaty removed and doubtless frequently transhipped in the offing or secluded parts of the coast to regular slave vessels.

3. The first of these objectionable practices consists in the incomplete filling up of the passports which are required in the case contemplated by that particular Article of the Treaty—I obtained a sight of several of these passports at the Island of St. Thomas, last June. They had been used to cover a shipment of slaves under Article V, which Her Majesty's Commissioners at St. Paul de Loanda had discovered, too late, were irregular. These passports I considered informal and incomplete, inasmuch as no description of the class of persons, whose removal they were intended to legalise, was contained in the documents which merely stated that they were the property of such and such persons, and *de su servicio*, instead of being *de servicio de su casa*. In this particular case, I know that Her Majesty's Commissioners at

St. Paul de Loanda were fully persuaded that many of the negroes so removed were field slaves. The passports in question were granted by the Government of St. Paul de Loanda, and delivered at the Island of St. Thomas where, as I have stated, I saw them, pointed out the informality to the Governor, and told him had I fallen in with the vessel which carried the persons for whose passage they were granted, I would have seized her. He (the Portuguese Governor) affected surprise, told me, that the documents having been granted by competent authority he had considered them legal, and suffered the slaves to be landed. To avoid as much as possible the interference of British cruisers, the second practice has obtained, to which I venture to call your Lordship's attention, viz., that the Colonial Government of Portuguese Angola are in the habit of employing the small coasting craft of the country as colonial transports nominally commanded by subaltern officers of the Portuguese Royal Navy, who wear the uniform, and carry a pendant, and yet these vessels advertise for cargo and passengers like merchant-vessels. I made it my business to inform myself of the exact character of these vessels, because I had become aware, that if our cruisers permitted them to assume that of vessels of the Royal Navy of Portugal, it would be giving the slave-traders very great advantages over us, in carrying on their iniquitous Traffic. On this subject, I obtained an interview with the Portuguese naval officer at the moment in command at St. Paul de Loanda. Without directly claiming for them the character of vessels of the Portuguese navy, he evidently wished to class them with our "Sidon," "Vulcan," and other regularly commissioned troop ships, between which description of vessel and what we consider transports, he was unable or unwilling to understand the very essential difference.

4. Our cruisers ought to keep a strict eye on these vessels, and will have to disregard the insignia displayed, and generally understood to be reserved for the national marine of all maritime nations. The most obvious means of hindering vessels from assuming a character they do not possess, I mean that of the national armed force, is the re-adoption of private signals between the properly commissioned cruisers of the two Royal Navies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. GERRANS PHILLIPS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 344.

Advertisement published in an official Gazette at Angola.

NAVIO a sahir. A escuna "Conselho," do commando do 2º Teniente d'Armada Saturnino, largará para os portos do sul até Mossamedes no dia 8 de Maio. Recebe carga da praça e passageiros.

No. 345.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 18, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 7th November.

I have had great pleasure in fulfilling the instructions contained in the first despatch of that date* by informing the Portuguese Government that Her Majesty's Government had heard with much satisfaction of the intended Decree providing for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonies, and for their eventual emancipation; and that Her Majesty's Government desire to congratulate the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty upon the adoption of this wise and liberal measure.

Since I had last the honour of writing to your Lordship on this subject, I have ascertained, that of the five Ministers who compose the Portuguese Cabinet, four had already signified their approval of the proposed Decree, and

their readiness to sign it; and that the project was now in the hands of the Minister of Finance, waiting his approval.

I therefore made it my business to call upon the Minister of Finance, and explain to him the friendly interest taken by Her Majesty's Government in the adoption of a measure so much calculated to do honour to the Portuguese nation, and, as Her Majesty's Government believed, so likely to contribute to the permanent prosperity of the Portuguese colonies; and I earnestly begged his Excellency not to allow the other pressing avocations of his office to divert his attention from the important measure in contemplation, which only wanted his assent to be submitted for the Royal approval, and to become law.

Senhor Fontes had the goodness to say, that he would bear my recommendation in mind, and endeavour to devote his first moment of leisure to the consideration of the measure of which we spoke; that he had already a general knowledge of the provisions of the intended Decree, and that although there were some of them which he thought might be amended, he was so much in favour of the principle of the measure, that he was disposed, upon the whole, to defer at once to the opinions of his colleagues, and subscribe the Decree in its present form, rather than incur the risk of delay, and perhaps ultimate disappointment, by raising a discussion upon points of minor importance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 346.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the expulsion of the slave-trader Flores from Angola, I transmit to you herewith for your information a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, from which it appears that the Provisional Government at that place had received the order for the expulsion of Flores, but had allowed him to remain five months at Loanda for the purpose of winding up his alleged mercantile transactions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 347.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant, and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having urged the Portuguese Minister of Finance not to delay giving his assent to the proposed Decree for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonies.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 348.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 27, 1854.

I HAD the honour, on the 21st of this month, to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 15th and 16th instant.

I beg herewith to submit a copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in the second of these despatches, I have addressed to

* See Class A, No. 74.

the Viscount d'Athoguia, communicating the information furnished to your Lordship by Commander Phillips, late of Her Majesty's ship "Polyphemus," relative to the evasions and infractions of the Treaty of 1842 between Great Britain and Portugal, which are tolerated and countenanced by the Colonial Government of Angola in the transportation of field-negroes, improperly passed as domestic slaves from the continent to the Portuguese islands.

I take this opportunity also to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which I wrote to the Viscount d'Athoguia upon the same subject on 3rd of last month in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of September last, to which note I have as yet received no answer beyond the usual intimation that it had been forwarded to the Marine and Colonial Department.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 348.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Cintra, October 3, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has received instructions to call the serious attention of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to certain open and undisguised violations of the Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, committed by the authorities provisionally charged with the Government of the Province of Angola, of which Her Majesty's Government have lately received the unwelcome intelligence.

Some particulars respecting these illegal and unjustifiable transactions will be found in the inclosed copies of two communications from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to the persons highest in authority in the province, calling upon them, while it was yet time, to prevent the contemplated infraction of the Treaty, and recapitulating the statements which the Commissioners had previously made at an interview with those authorities for the same purpose, but all without effect.

The leading facts of this extraordinary case, as they have been reported to Her Majesty's Government, are as follows:—

On the 12th April, Her Majesty's Commissioner received certain information that a transport, the "*Trindade*," belonging to this Colonial Government, commanded by a Lieutenant in the Portuguese navy, and which sailed hence for St. Thomas on the evening of the 8th, had shipped a very considerable number of slaves, stated by some at 40, by others at 60 and upwards.

This very same transport, in a trip she made to St. Thomas's in January last, carried off nearly 100 slaves, who were sold, on their arrival there, at a high premium. This is matter of notoriety; and Her Majesty's Commissioner, at the same time that he received the information respecting the slaves in the "*Trindade*," learnt that it was intended to ship a further batch on board another colonial transport, similarly circumstanced, called the "*Esperanza*," on the eve of sailing thence for Lisbon, *viâ* St. Thomas.

For a day or two it seemed doubtful, and the Government were said to have prohibited any such further shipment; but eventually Her Majesty's Commissioner having reason to believe that it was to be persisted in, proposed to the Portuguese Commissioner to join in a representation on the subject to the President of the Provisional Government, a step which that gentleman declined to take, saying he preferred, as a Portuguese functionary, to address himself singly to the Government. This he accordingly did, as did also Captain Rodvalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station, both calling on the Executive, in very energetic terms, not to allow so gross an infraction of the Treaty as was said to be in contemplation to be carried into effect. All proved in vain; the members of the Provisional Government individually and collectively insisted, verbally,—for they have taken good care not to commit themselves in writing on this point,—that they fully understood the Treaty, and that what they were about to commit was no violation of it.

This was reported to Her Majesty's Commissioner on the 18th, and finding

that the transport was actually to sail that evening with at least 10 slaves, he proposed to his colleague Her Majesty's Arbitrator, to repair with him instantaneously to the Palace, and urge upon the President of the Government a reconsideration of the resolution which it was understood had been come to. On their admission his Excellency at once stopped all practical discussion or argument by interrupting Her Majesty's Commissioner, who, with the Treaty in his hand, was about to point out its provisions and requirements, by saying that he had studied and understood the Treaty thoroughly, and that it was, therefore, needless to read it. Much desultory and most unsatisfactory discussion, however, did occur, the purport of which will best be collected from a perusal of the inclosed note which, on their return home, the Commissioners hastened to draw up and forward whilst the transport was yet in the harbour.

It chanced that that night a heavy storm prevented her going to sea, and the following morning the Commandant of the Naval Station, to whom the officer in command of the transport, also Lieutenant in the navy, had applied for advice, went on board her, and took upon himself to make a register of every soul he found in the vessel, and to prohibit the shipment of a single slave beyond the number of 10, whom he erroneously considered, in consequence of the Government's representation and passport, as belonging to a colono, and as coming in this way within the scope of the Treaty. He also cautioned the Lieutenant not to allow any launch to go alongside the transport when outside the harbour, as he apprehended an attempt of the kind might be made, so anxious were parties to effect the shipment of their slaves on board this vessel, some of whom, failing in this, relinquished their passage, and remained behind in the city after they had obtained their passports, making no secret of their reason for so doing.

For these steps, not, he says, warranted by his actual sphere of duty, Captain Rodovalho holds himself responsible to his Government, to whom he has written, trusting that the motives which induced them, jealousy for the honour of Portugal and of his country's flag, will be deemed by them a legitimate excuse for his interposing in a matter which concerned the provincial Government and not the naval station.

In consequence of the application above spoken of from the commanding officer of the transport, Captain Rodovalho reiterated his previous remonstrance in an official letter, but neither to that, to the representation of the Portuguese Commissioner, nor to the note of Her Majesty's Commissioner, has any answer been given.

Under these circumstances, and having ascertained every particular respecting the individual who figured as a settler and the owner of the 10 slaves, he was allowed to ship on board the "*Esperanza*," the Commissioners thought it right to address a second note to the Colonial Government, a copy of which is herewith inclosed.

The Commissioners have transmitted the inclosed three official "Boletims" that report the sailing of the vessels which successively embarked the slaves as above referred to, Nos. 445, 446, and 447. From that of the 1st December it will be seen that the "*Trindade*" is reported as having sailed for St. Thomas's and Prince's on the 22nd January with forty-seven passengers; from the 2nd, that she is said to have sailed again for those islands on the 8th of April with five passengers; and from the 3rd, that the "*Esperanza*" sailed for Lisbon, to touch at St. Thomas's and Prince's, with sixty-five passengers on the 19th instant.

In neither of these reports is any mention made either of slaves or of colours, the fact being, that in the first of these three voyages, which occurred during the government of the Viscount of Pinheiro, a number little short of 100 slaves were carried off, most of the passengers figuring as colonos, and taking accordingly each so many, professedly to settle with in the islands, whereas there was not one entitled to be thus considered; so little so, indeed, that some of them had even arrived in the steamer which brought the Viscount to Loanda; in the 2nd voyage, one of these latter, and who, during his stay here, had been a guest of the Juiz de Direito, figured as a settler.

There will be found the names of two other individuals, who were also allowed to embark in the "*Trindade*" with their slaves under the same fiction (J. V. de Carvalho and J. B. de l'Azavara), as having arrived from the islands on the return voyage of that vessel from thence on the 15th March. This will appear from the "Boletim" No. 442 also annexed, it being pretty

certain that they were among the forty-seven passengers reported as having sailed from Loanda in that same transport in January.

In the third voyage, that of the "*Esperanza*," thanks to the timely interference of Captain Rodovalho, 10 slaves only were taken away, 5 of whom were boys and 5 girls, from 12 to 15 years of age.

In calling the attention of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to a state of things so reprehensible, and so much at variance with the engagements of Portugal on the subject of the Slave Trade, the Undersigned is instructed to express the confident expectation of Her Majesty's Government that measures will be taken immediately, and in the most public manner, to put an end to such abuses.

The view taken of certain clauses in the Treaty, to which the members of the Provisional Government will probably refer in justification of their proceedings, is so clearly and palpably erroneous that it would be to waste the time of the Portuguese Government or the Undersigned to offer any remarks in refutation of arguments so futile. It will be seen that Senhor Rodovalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station at Loanda, was not backward in endeavouring to induce the Provisional Government, and also the commander of the transport, to abandon the enterprise in which they were about to embark in open violation of the Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government have especially instructed the Undersigned to point out to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government the highly proper conduct of Senhor Rodovalho on this occasion, which Her Majesty's Government hope will receive, at the hands of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, the approval which it deserves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 348.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Lisbon, November 23, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour on the 3rd of last month to bring to the notice of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government certain information which had reached Her Majesty's Government, relative to infractions of the Treaty between the two countries for the suppression of the Slave Trade, committed by the superior authorities of the province of Angola.

It now becomes the duty of the Undersigned, in fulfilment of instructions from Her Majesty's Government, again to address his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia upon this unpleasant subject, in the hope that his Excellency will be pleased to cause measures to be taken to put a stop to the abuses of which Her Majesty's Government have cause to complain, and to adopt the suggestion which with that view the Undersigned is instructed to submit.

It is represented to Her Majesty's Government by an officer lately in command of one of Her Majesty's ships on the west coast of Africa, that the stringent regulations contained in Article V of the Treaty of July, 1842, with regard to the removal of domestic or household slaves by sea, are now systematically evaded and violated by the Colonial Government of Angola, and that field slaves ("*escravos do campo*") are, contrary to the intention of the Treaty, removed, and doubtless frequently transhipped in the offing, or on secluded parts of the coast, to regular slave-ships.

One of the practices resorted to, to cover this abuse, consists in the incomplete filling up of the passports required in such cases by Article V of the Treaty to render legal the removal of domestic slaves, supposing the transaction to be in other respects a *bond fide* one.

Several of these passports, deficient in the requisites pointed out by the Treaty, were seen at the Island of St. Thomas in the month of June last, by Commander Phillips, of Her Majesty's ship "*Polyphemus*."

In the case in question, the passports were informal and incomplete, inasmuch as no description (such as is distinctly required by clause 5 of Article V of the Treaty) of the class of persons whose removal they were intended to legalise, was to be found in them. They merely stated that the negroes were

the property of such and such persons, and "*de su serviço*," instead of "*de serviço de su casa*." Had the vessel which conveyed the slaves, embarked with passports such as these, been fallen in with by a British cruiser, it would have been the duty of the officer in command to detain her, and bring her into port for trial, when, according to the conditions of Article V of the Treaty, she must have been condemned.

Another practice which has been introduced, and which, as was shown in the note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 3rd of last month, serves to cover the illegal transportation of slaves from the continent to the islands, is the employment of small coasting craft of the country as colonial transports, nominally commanded by subaltern officers of the Portuguese Royal Navy, who wear the uniform and hoist a pendant, such vessels nevertheless advertising for cargo and passengers, and carrying on the business of common merchant-vessels. At an interview which Commander Phillips had with the Portuguese naval officer commanding at St. Paul's de Loanda, in the early part of this year, the latter officer, without directly claiming for such vessels the character of vessels of the Portuguese navy, seemed to suppose that they were of the same character as some vessels belonging to the British navy, regularly commissioned, and in all respects forming part of the Royal Navy of Great Britain, which are principally employed in the conveyance of troops, whereas the colonial vessels in question do not form part of the Royal Navy of Portugal, and cannot therefore claim the privileges and distinctions attaching to that character, and still less so when employed in the transportation of slaves under circumstances forbidden by the Treaty between the two countries, and consequently exposing such vessels to the risk of capture and condemnation. To prevent abuses of this kind, it is suggested to Her Majesty's Government, and the Undersigned is instructed to submit the suggestion for the consideration of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, that the most obvious means of hindering vessels from assuming a character which they do not possess (that of belonging to the national armed force), would be the readoption of private signals between the properly commissioned cruisers of the two Royal navies.

The following copy of an advertisement which appeared in the "*Boletim Official*" of Angola of 29th April last, will show that the colonial vessels commanded by Portuguese naval officers on the coast of Africa are merely merchant-vessels.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

Advertisement in the "Boletim Official" of Angola of the 29th April, 1854.

NAVIO a sahir.—A escuna "Conselho," do Commando do Segundo Teniente da Armada Saturnino, largará para os portos do sul até Mossamedes no dia 8 de Maio. Recebe carga da praça e passageiros.

No. 349.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 5th of this month to receive four Lordship's despatches of the 25th November.

I will not fail to direct the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact reported in the despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda of 5th July last, a copy of which accompanies your Lordship's above despatch,* namely, that notwithstanding the order issued by the Minister for the Marine and Colonial Department on 22nd February last, for the expulsion of the slave-dealer Francisco Antonio Flores with the least possible delay, the

* No. 340.

Local Government had allowed him to remain at Loanda five months, for the purpose of winding up his alleged mercantile affairs, thus affording a fresh proof of the countenance and encouragement extended by those authorities to persons notoriously concerned in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 350.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 8, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of 29th July last,* by which I was instructed to report to your Lordship whether a vessel was sent for the purpose of reinforcing the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa, and to my despatch of the 28th October,† by which I had the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that in reply to my renewed inquiry as to how soon it was likely that the Marine Department would be able to dispatch the promised reinforcement, the Viscount d'Athoguia had told me that he hoped to be able to send away the brig of war "Villa Flor" in the course of a few days, to be followed by another small vessel as soon as she could be got ready; I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the brig "Villa Flor" sailed for the coast of Africa on the 29th of last month.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 351.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit a copy of a note which, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th October, I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 3rd of last month, communicating the information which your Lordship had received from Mr. Consul Rendall, relative to the appearance of a slave-ship with a great number of slaves on board, at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, Island of St. Antonio, Cape de Verds, and suggesting, as further directed by your Lordship, the expediency of establishing a fort or military post in that part of the island to prevent the Bay of Terrafal from becoming a place of resort for slavers.

I have the honour also to inclose a translation of the answer which I have received from Viscount d'Athoguia upon this subject, in which it is stated that up to the 4th of this month no information beyond that contained in my note of 3rd November, had reached the Marine and Colonial Department relative to the occurrence referred to in that note—probably because the Governor-General of the province was away, at the Island of Brava—but that instructions had been sent to the Governor-General to report his opinion as to the expediency of constructing forts at the Bay of Terrafal, and other places in the Island of St. Antonio, in order to prevent the repetition of such occurrences.

I take this opportunity of mentioning that the Viscount d'Athoguia assures me that he has received no intelligence whatever about the individual stated by Mr. Consul Rendall to have been detained by the Military Governor of St. Vincent, subject to the orders of the Governor-General, on suspicion of being connected with the slave-ship reported in Mr. Consul Rendall's

* No. 322.

† No. 339.

letter, and that he concludes that a person so situated would not have been allowed to quit the Island of St. Vincent without some explanation, on the part of the Local Government, as to the circumstances which had led to his arrest, and ultimately to his liberation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 351.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, November 3, 1854.

I AM instructed to place in your Excellency's hands the inclosed copies of a despatch lately received by Her Majesty's Government from Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape de Verde Islands, and of its inclosures, being copies of a correspondence which had passed between Mr. Rendall and the Military Governor of St. Vincent, relating to the arrival of a slaver, with 550 slaves on board, at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, Island of St. Antonio, where having remained in security for nine days taking in a supply of water the vessel again put to sea in prosecution of her voyage to the Havana.

In directing your Excellency's attention to this occurrence and to the various circumstances connected with it, which are detailed in Mr. Consul Rendall's letter, I am instructed more particularly to press upon your Excellency the adoption of Mr. Rendall's suggestion that a fort should be established on the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, which is represented to be a favourite resort for slave-vessels, as at that anchorage they are concealed from observation from seaward, and water and refreshments are there procurable in abundance.

It also presents according to Mr. Rendall's statement, as at present circumstanced, the advantage of being at such a distance from any Portuguese authority, that a slaver has time to complete her stock of provisions and water before any force can arrive to interfere with her.

I take, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 351.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 6, 1854.

HAVING brought to the knowledge of the Marine Department, as I made known to you on the 9th of November last, the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 3rd of the same month, respecting the arrival of a slaver at the port of Terrafal, in the Island of St. Antonio, Cape de Verde, I have the honour to acquaint you, that on the 4th instant that Department informed me that no communication had as yet been received on this subject, doubtless owing to the absence of the Governor-General of the province at the Island Brava, but that on the same day instructions had been sent to the Governor-General to take the proper measures, and requiring of him a report as to the advantages of constructing forts in the port of Terrafal as well as in other similar positions, for the purpose of preventing a repetition of similar occurrences.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 352.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, inclosing copies of letters which had been addressed to them by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," and of a correspondence which had taken place between that officer and the Council of Government at Loanda, respecting the seizure of certain launches in the river Congo, and as to the right of one Francisco Franque, the so-called Governor of Porto Rico, to issue passports to coasting vessels.

I have communicated to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty my approval of the view taken by Commander Skene of this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 353.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December, 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit a translation of a note from the Viscount d'Athognia, dated the 13th of this month, in which it is stated, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, that the Portuguese brig-of-war "Villa Flor" has sailed for the west coast of Africa, furnished with the instructions required by the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, to cruise against the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 353.

Viscount d'Athognia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, that in a despatch of yesterday's date, I am informed through the Marine Department, that on the 29th ultimo, the brig "Villa Flor," carrying ten guns, and commanded by the First Lieutenant of the Portuguese Navy, Antonio Augusto d'Oliveira, the second in command being the Second Lieutenant, José Maximo Jaques dos Reis, sailed from this port furnished with instructions in conformity with the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain, to act in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the station on the west coast of Africa, and the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 354.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 29, 1854.

THE Decree for the registration of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal, which has been so long promised by the Portuguese Government, and which it was at first intended should contain some provisions for the eventual emancipation of the slave population, has at last made its appearance, and will be found in the number of the Official Journal, being that of yesterday, which I have the honour herewith to inclose,

A translation of this Decree is in course of preparation, and will be forwarded by the first opportunity.

As relates to registration, the provisions of this Decree seem, as far as they go, to be sufficiently clear and peremptory; but I do not think that they are altogether as comprehensive as might be desired.

For instance, I do not find that any obligation is imposed on the owner to report the death of a slave when one takes place, or to declare, from time to time, any change which may have been made in the number of his slaves, whether by increase or diminution, although such precautions would seem to be very necessary to prevent fraud and abuse.

As relates to emancipation, your Lordship will be disappointed at finding that little is effected by the present Decree towards the immediate accomplishment of that object except as concerns slaves, the property of the State, who are declared to be free from the date of publication of the Decree.

But the tendency of the various regulations introduced by it is altogether beneficent, and likely, if duly enforced, to effect a great improvement in the condition of the negroes.

The Viscount d'Athoguia informed me some days ago, that after repeated consultation on the difficult subject of emancipation, it had been found impossible to provide the means of carrying that part of the measure into execution at present, consistently with an equitable regard to the interests of the slave-owners as relates particularly to compensation; and that it was, therefore, thought advisable to produce the Decree as it now stands, in order that the advantages to be derived from registration and the other beneficent enactments of the Decree might be immediately secured, in preference to waiting for them until the whole measure originally contemplated could be matured.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 355.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 8, 1855.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit a translation of the Decree lately published by the Portuguese Government, for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves, in the Portuguese Colonial possessions, a copy of which Decree I had the honour to forward with my despatch of 29th of last month.

Since I had the honour of writing to your Lordship, I have had some conversation with the Viscount d'Athoguia upon the subject of this Decree.

I observed to him, that although Her Majesty's Government would undoubtedly view with satisfaction the effort thus made by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, towards the attainment of a wise and beneficent object, they would nevertheless experience a certain degree of disappointment at finding that the measure introduced by the Decree of 14th December, falls so far short of what had been contemplated by the original project, which we had been led to expect would be that submitted for the royal approval.

Amongst the provisions contained in the Decree as at first proposed, and which are not to be found in that finally adopted, was one declaring that every child born of a slave mother in a Portuguese possession should be free from the moment of its birth. The Viscount d'Athoguia replied, that he and his colleagues regretted this omission, which, however, they had upon reflection felt obliged to consent to, and this from motives of humanity, derived from the painful conviction, that to proclaim the freedom of infants, the offspring of slaves, while the parents were retained in a state of bondage, and thus to divest the owner of the parents of all interest in the well-being of the children, would in the generality of cases, be to condemn the latter to a state of abandonment and neglect, and in many cases probably, to something worse. That as the best substitute for the absolute freedom of all slave children, which it was at first intended to enforce, the condition had been adopted of making it lawful for any person, charitably disposed to take charge of such children, and to secure their freedom, to redeem them when they are presented for baptism, on payment of the sum of one mil reis. Other provisions of the Decree all tending to the object at which it is hoped and intended ultimately to arrive, the Viscount d'Athoguia referred to as likely to be acceptable to Her Majesty's Government, such as the clause declaring all slaves the property of the State, to be free from the date of publication of the Decree; that by which it is enacted that children, the offspring of a woman with whom the master should be known to have lived in a state of concubinage, shall be free also; and finally, that by which the privilege of purchasing their own freedom at a valuation to be conducted upon fair and liberal principles, is secured henceforth to the whole slave population. With respect to that part of the Decree which speaks of registration, I could not help pointing out to the Viscount d'Athoguia, the omission, to which I ventured to direct your Lordship's notice in my last despatch upon the subject, of all precautions against fraud and abuse, such as slave masters might be tempted to practise, when a slave died or ran away, by filling up his place by a fresh importation, and I suggested that some of the regulations upon this point, which are contained in Annex C to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, providing for the treatment of liberated negroes, might have been advantageously introduced into the Decree lately promulgated. The Viscount d'Athoguia acknowledged the propriety of this suggestion, and said that he would endeavour to remedy the defect which I had pointed out, by making it a matter of instruction to the Governors of the Colonies to prescribe, as an administrative measure, that an account should be periodically furnished by slave-owners, of whatever alteration might take place in their stock of negroes from whatever cause.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th December, inclosing a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, with copies of letters which had been addressed to them by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," and of a correspondence which had taken place, between that officer and the Council of Government at Loanda, respecting the seizure of certain launches in the River Congo, and as to the rights of one Francisco Franque, the so-called Governor of Porto Rico, to issue passports to coasting vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 355.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Marine and Colonial Department.

TAKING into consideration the urgent necessity for obviating the many and serious inconveniences resulting from the uncertainty and vagueness of the law as observed in the several transmarine provinces subject to the Portuguese Crown, with regard to the rights of ownership which must be tolerated there, until such time as the proper measures can be adopted, to the end, that the principles of individual liberty and equality may receive the strict and liberal application which the Kings of these realms have, from time immemorial always pro-

PORTUGAL.

claimed, and which in the glorious reigns of the King Don José, and of the Queen Dona Maria I, of beloved memory, were ordered to be extended to the entire continent of the Kingdom of Portugal, and to the adjacent islands.

Agreeing to the proposal of the Transmarine Council contained in their report of 9th December, 1853, amplifying what is enacted by the Royal Letters Patent of 7th February, 1701, and what is now in practice in the Province of Cape Verd in some cases, and in that of Angola in others; and fixing once for all the true acceptation of the term and effect of enfranchisement, which the "Alvara" of 16th January, 1773, justly proscribed as barbarous and anti-Christian in the strict sense of the ancient Roman law, but which in the liberal and civilizing sense of the constitutional charter of the monarchy bears a different, very limited and humane acceptation. I am pleased, in the name of the King, and using the power conferred by Article XV, § 1, of the Additional Act, after hearing the Council of Ministers, to decree as follows:

TITLE 1.

Registration of Slaves.

ARTICLE I. All slaves existing in the Portuguese transmarine dominions at the time of the publication of this Decree, shall be registered within the term of thirty days, in the presence of the proper authorities of the township, district or garrison wherein they reside. This registration shall be made in the manner enacted in Article VII of the Regulations, dated 25th October, 1853, and for it the masters of slaves shall pay a fee of 500 reis for each slave.

II. Such slaves as may not have been presented and inscribed on the above-mentioned register, within the prescribed term, will be considered as enfranchised for all the effects of this Decree.

III. The book of registration will be sent to the Governor of the province, who will cause to be extracted therefrom lists of the registered slaves, declaring their names, sex and age; and which he will forward with the least possible delay through the proper department.

IV. Such slaves as may be imported into the said dominions by land, subsequent to the publication of the present Decree, shall be also registered in a separate book, in the manner enacted by Article I, and within the term of thirty days from their arrival.

§. Authentic lists of the slaves thus registered shall be sent every quarter to the Governor of the province, for the purposes mentioned in Article III.

V. No action may be brought on in Court upon questions of liberty, unless a certificate of registration is produced.

TITLE 2.

Ransom and Protection of Slaves.

VI. All slaves residing in territory belonging to the Crown of Portugal, have a right to claim their natural liberty, upon compensating their masters for the just price of their service.

§. From the date of the publication of the present decree, all slaves belonging to the State are free.

VII. All slaves imported by land into the dominions of Portugal, subsequent to the publication of this decree, are to be considered as liberated negroes, being bound, however, to serve their masters for the term of ten years, in accordance with the Regulations of 25th October, 1853.

§ 1. It is lawful to sell the services of these negroes for the whole or for a portion of the time during which they are bound to serve.

§ 2. The certificate of the registration required by Article IV, is a document essentially necessary for enforcing the service to which these negroes are liable

VIII. The liberated negroes mentioned in the preceding Article, have an equal right with that accorded by Article VI, to slaves; and all the other provisions of this decree are in like manner applicable to both classes of negroes.

IX. The State is the natural patron and guardian of all slaves, liberated negroes, and their children.

X. In each of the transmarine provinces the exercise of this guardianship will be confided to a board, to be established in the capital city, under the denomination of a Board for the protection of slaves and liberated negroes.

§ 1. The Bishop of the diocese will be President for life of the Board, and in his absence the ecclesiastic exercising the ordinary authority, under any title whatsoever.

§ 2. When the said ordinary authority is held collectively by the Chapter "*sede vacante*," the President of the Chapter will be President of the Board.

§ 3. The members of the Board are, the Law Officer of the Crown, the President of the Municipal Chamber, and the Provédore of the Orphan Asylum established in the capital of the province.

§ 4. Should the management of the Asylum be provisionally confided to a Committee, the place of the Provédore at the Board will be filled by the President of the Committee.

§ 5. In the Province of S. Thomé e Príncipe, and in others where only a delegate of the law officer of the Crown resides, this officer will be a member of the Board.

XI. The guardians of pauper prisoners, of slaves, and liberated negroes, appointed by Decree of 30th December, 1852, will be, in the Provinces of Angola and S. Thomé e Príncipe, subject to, and immediate agents of, the Board, and will receive from it their authority and instructions.

§ 1. The provisions of the said Decree are hereby extended to the other transmarine provinces, to the end that similar guardians may be appointed in all of them, to be in like manner subject to the authority and instructions of the several Boards.

§ 2. The public prosecutor's delegate, or sub-delegate, will by right hold the same office on the part of the Board.

§ 3. In places where no public officer of this kind resides, the Board may depute its authority and jurisdiction to the parish priest or missionary, or to any other person whom it may consider most fit.

§ 4. The person thus appointed will, in this capacity, be considered by all judges and authorities of every kind and grade, as invested with all the power and force which the laws confer upon these officers.

XII. The Board for the protection of slaves and liberated negroes has the charge, and the consequent right of protecting and acting for them in all matters, in Court as well as elsewhere; it exercises over them and their children paternal authority; it directs their affairs; protects their property; collects and administers all inheritances, bequests, legacies, gifts, alms, or any donations which may be made, either by deed or by will, to individuals or to the community, in favour of the charitable objects of the ransom of slaves, and the maintenance and education of slaves and liberated negroes.

XIII. The Board will have a special place of deposit for keeping all its revenues, and also for those belonging under any title whatsoever to its wards individually.

XIV. In the collection, management, and administration of the general property and income of slaves and liberated negroes, and of the particular effects of each one, the Board will follow the rules prescribed by law for the administration of the property of orphans.

XV. All property and incomes which, under any title whatsoever, belong or may hereafter belong to the general property of slaves and liberated negroes, will enjoy all the privileges which the law grants to property belonging to the Lisbon Orphan Asylum.

XVI. It is incumbent on the Board, with reference to the protection of slaves :

1st. To take care that the rights of ownership be exercised within the limits of religion, of humanity, and of the laws, by making use of persuasion and admonition, and having recourse to the authority of the judges and magistrates, if necessary.

2nd. To protect and take care of the lawfully-acquired effects of slaves, and to supervise their application causing them to serve principally for procuring the means of their ransom.

3rd. To institute and carry on in Court the claims for their liberty, as authorized by Article VI of this Decree.

4th. To institute and carry on in like manner claims in Court, when a freeman or liberated negro wishes to assert the liberty already acquired by him, or that which he has never lost.

XVII. The Board will draw up for this purpose a regulation adapted to the local and special circumstances of each province ; and which being approved by the Governor-General in Council, will be carried into immediate and provisional execution, until such time as it may be examined by my transmarine council, and definitively sanctioned by me.

XVIII. The Board is charged with the protection and general guardianship of the persons and property of liberated negroes ; it is incumbent on it to direct their education and instruction ; to administer to the wants of such as are poor and destitute, and in general to watch over all.

TITLE 3.

Acquisition of Liberty.

XIX. Such slaves as by themselves, or their own property, or through the charity or favour of others, obtain the means of acquiring their liberty, may have recourse to the Board of Protection, or to any of its agents or delegates, in order to cause the master to be called before the Court of Conciliation, for the purpose of coming to an agreement upon the amount of the ransom.

XX. The agent or delegate of the Board will proceed immediately to make the required summons.

XXI. From the time that the master of the slave is summoned to the Court, the agent or delegate may, if he think fit, request the judicial authority to cause the slave to be placed in the custody of a proper person.

XXII. Should the amount of the ransom be agreed upon in Court between the master of the slave and the agent or delegate of the Board, a deed shall be drawn up embodying this agreement, and also evidence of the delivery of the price ; and thus the manumission of the slave will be complete ; the receipt for the amount agreed to will be annexed to the deed.

§ 1. This deed after receiving the signatures of the judge or his substitute, of the master, of the agent or delegate of the Board, and of the scrivener, will constitute the certificate of emancipation of the slave.

§ 2. The costs of this process, if an agreement is effected, will be paid one half by the slave, and one half by the master ; if otherwise, the whole to be paid by the master.

XXIII. Should no agreement be arrived at, the agent or delegate of the Board will petition the judicial authority to cause the master to be summoned to appoint, and to be present at the appointment of, arbitrators on behalf of each party, in order to fix the amount of the ransom.

§ If on the expiration of twenty-four hours, the master of the slave has

not named an arbitrator on his part, a certificate to that effect will be recorded on the process, and the arbitrator will be named by the judge.

XXIV. After these arbitrators have been appointed, the judge will name a third as referee, who must be a man of established honesty and justice, and well versed in the appraisement of slaves, and will notify to all three arbitrators a certain hour within the next twenty-four for proceeding to fix the amount of ransom, this act to be performed in open court, the proper judge presiding after having administered the oath to the arbitrators.

§ 1. In fixing this price, the arbitrators will have in view the age of the slaves, their state of health, knowledge, habits, service, profession or trade, and any other qualification which may increase or diminish their value; these circumstances alone and not any caprice or affection on the part of the master, will regulate the appraisement.

§ 2. Should the arbitrators on both sides agree as to the price of the liberty of the slave, the appraisement is concluded.

§ 3. Should they not agree, the referee will then be called upon to decide, and although he is not bound to agree with the amount proposed by either party, yet his appraisement must not exceed the highest amount, or be less than the lowest, and his appraisement will be taken as the proper compensation.

XXV. The judge will ratify by judicial decision, the agreement arrived at by the arbitrators; and upon delivery of the amount to the master of the slave the manumission shall be completed. A transcript of the judicial decision, together with the receipt of the price signed by the master, and countersigned by the judge and the scrivener will constitute the certificate of emancipation of the slave.

XXVI. This verbal and summary proceeding does not admit of delays, or any further term beyond that mentioned, and must be concluded without fail within eight days.

XXVII. These proceedings and this appraisement become unnecessary in the case of slaves, who, forming part of an inheritance, are therein described and valued. They may claim their liberty when through their own means or through the charity or favour of another, they are enabled to make good to the estate the amount of appraisement.

XXVIII. In cases of claims, such as are mentioned in section 4, of Article XVI, of this Decree, the agent or delegate of the Board will summon before the Court, those who detain as slaves any persons calling themselves freemen or liberated negroes; and will there by every lawful means seek to obtain the acknowledgment of the disputed liberty.

§ 1. Should no agreement be come to, the matter must be brought before the Court for contested questions, "Juizo Contencioso" where the form of summary process for cases of outrage will be observed as prescribed in Article CCLXXXI, of the "Novissima Reforma Judicial." The detainer is bound to prove that the person detained, is a slave as represented by him. Should he fail to do so, such person will be declared free.

§ 2. The provision of Article XXI of this decree is applicable in this case.

TITLE 4.

Guardianship of Liberated Negroes.

XXIX. All slaves who under any circumstances obtain their liberty, enter at once the class of liberated negroes, and become subject to the public guardianship of the Board.

§ Such slaves as obtain their liberty through the general provision of the law, as enacted in the clause of Article VI of this Decree, are bound to serve

the state for seven years, under the provisions of the regulation of 25th October, 1853.

XXX. The Board of Protection will adopt as its provisional rule, with regard to the liberated negroes of the state, as well as to all others in general, the system of registration and the other administrative provisions contained in the said regulation of 25th October, 1853.

XXXI. Any infant slave, on whose part the sum of 5,000 reis is delivered in the act of baptism, either to the Parish Priest, or to the officiating Minister, will become *ipso facto* as free as if he was freeborn. In the entry of the baptism the proper evidence will be recorded.

§ 1. The sum thus delivered to the parish Priest will be given up to the master.

§ 2. For the purposes of this Article infancy is extended to the age of five years.

§ 3. Should any sums be granted or bequeathed by known or unknown persons, to be appropriated to the ransom of infant slaves in the act of baptism, they will be collected and administered in the manner prescribed by Articles XIV and XV of this Decree.

XXXII. Infants who thus attain to the condition of freemen, will nevertheless, until their majority, remain under the guardianship of the Board of Protection as if they were liberated negroes.

XXXIII. Any liberated negro who may belong to any of the following classes, will cease to be under the public guardianship and will be considered as a freeman, and enjoy the full entire and absolute rights of a citizen.

1. Bachelors graduated at the University of Coimbra.
2. Graduates of any denomination of a foreign University or Academy.
3. Clergymen in Sacred Orders.
4. Members of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Lisbon.
5. Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the Army and Navy.
6. Those who may have gone through a course of studies at the Lisbon or Oporto Polytechnic Schools, or the Naval, Military or Medical Schools of Lisbon or Oporto, the Mathematical and Military and Medical Schools of Goâ, the Medical School of Funchal, or at any other high schools which may hereafter be established.
7. The professors of the primary, secondary, and superior branches of learning.
8. Those who may have filled the office of alderman, or clerk to the Municipal Chamber, administrator of a district, or judge (*eleito, ordinario, or substituto*) of clerks to the courts or of notary public, or any other office of equal or superior rank.
9. Merchants carrying on a wholesale trade.
10. Book-keepers and head clerks of commercial houses.
11. Such as may have acquired any landed property.
12. The managers of farming and manufacturing establishments.

TITLE 5.

General and Penal Provisions.

XXXIV. All bequests are valid when the testator thereby leaves his inheritance or legacy to a third party under the promise of delivering it to the slave when liberated, either with or without the clause of employing the whole or part of the inheritance or legacy in the ransom of that slave.

XXXV. In the case contemplated in the preceding Article, the Board of Protection is empowered and bound to demand in court, through its agents and delegates, the execution and full compliance with such bequests.

XXXVI. Besides what is enacted in Articles XII, XIII, XIV, XV, and XXXIV, of this Decree, the endowment of the Board will comprise the following funds :—

1. A proportion to be regulated by the Board, of the proceeds of the labour of liberated negroes.

2. The proceeds of the penalties and fines imposed by this Decree.

3. Five per cent. upon the price of slaves sold, in whatever way such sale may be effected.

4. The proportions of the revenues of the municipalities and asylums voted by the General Boards, and in the absence of these, by the Governors-General in Council.

5. Whatever subsidiary amounts may be voted by the said General Boards or Governors-General in Council to meet the requirements of the Board of Protection.

6. In the Kingdom of Angola, and its dependencies, a per centage upon what is actually paid by the so-called carriers until such time as they are suppressed; the amount to be arbitrated the same way as above.

XXXVII. In sales of slaves by public auction, it will not be permitted to outbid an offer made for effecting the liberty of the slave, provided that such offer shall cover the amount of appraisement. A certificate of the deed of appraisement will constitute the certificate of emancipation of said slave.

XXXVIII. It is prohibited to alienate, under any circumstances whatsoever, a married slave separately from his wife, if also a slave; as also a slave mother from her children if slaves and under seven years of age.

XXXIX. The children of a female slave proved to have been born while she has been in a state of concubinage with her master, will be liberated without ransom.

XL. Any person who may knowingly detain as slaves, free or liberated negroes, will incur the penalties attached to the crime of private restraint, and will pay besides, to the coffers of the Board of Protection, the sum of 100,000 reis.

XLI. Any person selling as a slave, or otherwise trafficking with his own child, will incur the penalty of imprisonment enacted by Article CCCXXVIII, of the Penal Code, and besides this, pay to the Board of Protection, 200,000 reis, and such child shall become free.

XLII. The share belonging to the State of all penalties and fines levied, or to be levied, upon those who carry on the Slave Trade, or in any way abet it, as also of the securities unredeemed which are mentioned in Article XXIV of the decree of 10th December, 1836, will be ceded in favour of the funds of the Board.

XLIII. Contracts entered into for labour with African chiefs or others, may not exceed the term stipulated in Article X of the Regulation of 25th October, 1853, and will be specially liable to the supervision of the Boards of Protection, all other authorities being likewise bound to take care that these contracts may not become an abuse in contravention of the laws which prohibit the Traffic in Slaves.

XLIV. The Boards of Protection will send to the Government in the months of January and July, half-yearly and detailed reports of their labours.

XLV. The Governors, as the heads of all administration in their respective provinces, will furnish to the Government in the month of January of each year, an annual and circumstantial report of the manner in which this Decree has been put in practice.

XLVI. The Governors of the transmarine provinces will, as soon as they receive this Decree, cause it to be immediately published and put into execution, taking such provisional measures in Council as may be necessary for the prompt and due compliance therewith, which under no circumstance or pretext may be delayed.

XLVII. All legislative enactments to the contrary are hereby revoked.

The Viscount d'Athoguia, Peer of the Realm, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and for the Marine and Colonial Departments, shall thus understand and cause it to be carried out.

Palace, December 14, 1854.

KING REGENT.
VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 356.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 16, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 11th of December, I transmit to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* from the Acting British Consul at the Cape Verds, respecting the person belonging to the slaver lying at St. Antonio, who had obtained a passport for Portugal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 357.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant, inclosing a translation of the Portuguese Decree which was published on the 14th December last, containing regulations for the registration, redemption, and partial emancipation of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the observations and suggestions made by you in your conversation with Viscount d'Athoguia upon the subject of this Decree.

You will inform the Viscount d'Athoguia, that as far as the Decree goes, and as a step in the right direction, it is satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government; but you will again press upon his Excellency's consideration the importance of a strict and *bonâ fide* registration as the best check upon the deception so likely to be practised by the owners of slaves of filling up, by newly imported negroes, the vacancies occasioned by deaths or desertions.

I have sent a copy of the Decree of December 14, to Mr. Brand, the British Vice-Consul at Loanda, who is at present at home on leave of absence, and I have directed him to point out to me any amendments or additions which may occur to him as being desirable for the completion of this measure; and when I receive Mr. Brand's report, I may have to instruct you to address the Portuguese Minister further upon the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 358.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 27.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 19, 1855.

WITH my despatch of 27th November last, I had the honour to submit copies of two notes which I had addressed to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatches of the 26th September and 16th November, relative to infractions of the Treaty of 1842, committed by the local Government of Loanda in allowing slaves to be transported in excessive numbers from the continent to the Portuguese Islands, such slaves being moreover, in the majority of cases, field labourers, and not domestic servants, as required by the Treaty to legalize their removal.

I have now the honour to lay before your Lordship a translation of a note which I have received from the Viscount d'Athoguia purporting to be an answer to my above-mentioned notes and inclosing two Portarias—orders in the King's name—which are stated to have been issued with the view to correct the abuses complained of.

On looking into these orders your Lordship will find, that although they convey a severe reprimand to the colonial authorities for allowing slaves to be carried to the islands in excessive numbers, and desire that henceforth no more than one settler ("colono") accompanied by ten slaves and no more, shall be allowed to proceed in any vessel, whether a ship of war or a merchant-vessel passing from the continent to the islands, nothing whatever is said in them of the important condition required by the Treaty, that negroes so transported shall be *bonâ fide* domestic servants.

I have hastened to point out to the Viscount d'Athoguia, by a note of which I have the honour herewith to submit a copy, the imperfect nature of the orders which have thus been sent to the authorities of Angola, and to request in the name of Her Majesty's Government, that the defect may be remedied with the least possible delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 358.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, January 16, 1855.

IN answer to the notes which you were pleased to address to me on the 14th August, 5th October, and 24th November of last year, in which by the orders of your Government you claim that prompt measures may be taken for putting a stop to the abuses which were said to have been committed by the superior authorities of the Province of Angola, relative to the embarkation of slaves for the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince's, against the stipulations of the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain, I have to acquaint you that the two Portarias of which I have the honour to forward copies to you, were issued by the Marine Department on the 27th December last, to the Acting Governor-General of the above-mentioned province.

By them you will perceive that His Majesty was pleased to disapprove of the conduct of the authorities who allowed such an embarkation to take place; and to command, that in future no vessel whether of war or merchant, may be allowed to convey more than one colonist, who will only be permitted to take with him as many as ten slaves.

By this last stipulation, which is not to be found expressly set forth in that Treaty, His Majesty's Government consider that they afford to Her Britannic Majesty's Government a fresh proof of their earnest desire to prevent as far as lies in their power the inhuman Traffic of Slaves.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 358.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 27, 1854.

HIS Majesty the King Regent in the name of the King, having read the confidential despatches dated 18th and 29th April last respectively, from the Provisional Government of the Province of Angola, giving an account of the permission granted for the embarkation of slaves belonging to the colonists who left Loanda for the Province of St. Thomas and Prince's, in the state vessels "Trindade" and "Esperança," and also of the correspondence which took place upon this subject between that Governorship and the Commissioner and Arbitrator of the Mixed Commission; the said august personage orders it to be declared through the Marine and Colonial Department to the Acting Governor-General of the said province, that he has been pleased, conforming with the report of the Transmarine Council of the 22nd September last, to disapprove the conduct of the Provisional Government on this subject, inasmuch as the practice which has been followed in Angola being to allow no more than 10 slaves to embark in one ship, the Provisional Government ought not to have altered this rule on their own responsibility, and without the authority of this Department, as they were not aware whether such an alteration would cause embarrassment to His Majesty's Government.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 358.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 27, 1854.

HIS Majesty the King Regent in the name of the King ordains, through the Marine and Colonial Department, that the Acting Governor-General of the Province of Angola shall not, until further orders from this Department, and in conformity with the practice followed in that province, allow any vessel, whether a merchant-vessel or a man-of-war, to take on board more than one colonist who will only be permitted to take with him as many as 10 slaves.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 358.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Lisbon, January 19, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to receive the note addressed to him by his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia, bearing date the 16th June, and inclosing copies of two Portarias lately issued for the purpose, as stated by his Excellency, of putting a stop to the abuses which have been for some time practised by the authorities of Loanda, in allowing slaves to be transported, in excessive numbers, by vessels of the Colonial Government from the continent to the Portuguese islands, such slaves being moreover in the majority of cases mere field labourers, and not household servants as especially required by the Treaty to justify their removal.

The Portarias lately issued go to remedy the first of these evils, but nothing whatever is said in them on the other equally important point; namely, that the slaves allowed to be removed shall be *bonâ fide* household servants. If his Excellency will have the goodness again to look over the notes which the Undersigned had the honour, by command of his Government, to address to his Excellency on the 14th of August, 5th of October, and 24th of November last, he will find that the remonstrances of Her Majesty's Government related in a great measure to the reprehensible practice of allowing passengers proceeding to the islands to take with them, under the character of household servants, slaves in no way coming under that description; and on reference to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, Article V, his Excellency will further perceive that there is nothing against which stronger precautions are provided in that compact, than the very irregularity to which the Undersigned has now the honour to direct his Excellency's attention.

The Undersigned therefore is justified in requesting, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, that his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia will be pleased to cause such further orders to be sent to the authorities of Angola in addition to those already issued, as shall remedy the defect now evident in those instructions, and render them complete and satisfactory according to the letter and spirit of the existing Treaty for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

No. 359.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th instant with its inclosures, on the subject of the infractions of the Treaty of July 3rd, 1842, committed by the authorities of Angola in permitting large quantities of slaves to be shipped at Loanda for conveyance to the Portuguese islands of St. Thomas and Prince's, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 19th instant, pointing out the imperfect nature of the orders issued by the Portuguese Government in their Portaria of the 27th of December last, and requiring them not only to limit the number of slaves which colonists are allowed to take with them to the islands, but also to insist that none but domestic slaves shall accompany the colonists in those voyages.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 360.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 21.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 10, 1855.

I HAD the honour on the 5th of this month to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 18th January.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in it, by communicating verbally to the Viscount d'Athoguia the wishes and expectations of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the precautions to be taken to insure a strict *bonâ fide* registration of slaves in the Portuguese colonial dominions.

A more formal communication on this subject may more properly be made when I am in possession of the instructions which your Lordship gives me to expect I shall receive when your Lordship has heard Mr. Consul Brand's opinion as to any amendments or additions which may appear advisable for the completion of the measure in question.

In the meantime, the Viscount d'Athoguia assures me that a code of instructions to the colonial authorities, for the better fulfilment of the late

Decree, is under the consideration of the Ultra-Marine Council, in which provision will be made for the errors and omissions in the Decree which I ventured to point out to the Viscount d'Athoguia's notice as likely to lead to fraud and abuse.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 361.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 21.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose a translation of a despatch lately received from Captain Rodovalho, commanding the brig "Serra do Pilar" on the west coast of Africa, reporting an important capture of negroes to the number of 194, intended for shipment, effected by him in the month of November last, at Point Equimina, in the Province of Benguella, and the arrest and imprisonment of the persons who were found engaged in that criminal enterprise.

This Captain Rodovalho is the officer whose praiseworthy resistance to certain irregular acts of the Provisional Government of Angola in permitting the transportation of slaves from the continent to the islands, I was directed, by your Lordship's despatch of 26th September last, to bring to the notice of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government. For this reason, as well as on account of the meritorious service performed by him, on the occasion to which this despatch more immediately relates, I am glad to hear from the Viscount d'Athoguia, that he has received the King Regent's commands to forward to Captain Rodovalho the Decoration of the Order of Christ.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 361.

Captain Rodovalho to the Minister for Marine and the Colonies.

(Translation.)

Sir,

I HAVE the satisfaction of acquainting your Excellency, that being at anchor in the port of Benguella on the 16th instant, I received on the same day a confidential letter from the Governor of that place, by which he requested of me the assistance of the brig under my command, to repair to a place called Equimina, where there was said to be a considerable number of slaves intended to be shipped for exportation; and he sent to me as a guide on this important service a black, speaking Portuguese, who having succeeded in making his escape, had come to Benguella, and brought him the information in question. Accordingly, in consequence of all these circumstances, and notwithstanding my being employed on a most important service, for which I had received His Majesty's most peremptory orders, I determined, nevertheless, to sail for the place indicated, for which purpose I weighed from Benguella on the 17th, and lay-to in Elephant's Bay on the evening of the 19th. At 11 p.m. on the same day, I shoved off with Second Lieutenants C. F. de Almeida Pereira e Souza, J. da Meuna Aparicio, and P. C. de Aguiar Craveiro Lopes, taking with me besides these three officers a body of forty men. I steered for the beach at Equimina, landed there, and at once proceeded to the factory of Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, where I arrived about 3 a.m. on the following day. I was informed by the black who accompanied me as guide on this expedition, that this factory was the place where the slaves were, of whom I was in search, and I at once observed, that they were in the gardens belonging to the house where the said Ignacio Teixeira Xavier lived; and as, because of the darkness of the night, I could not effect my design, I set a watch round the factory, and remained in perfect silence until the break of dawn. As soon as it was clear daylight, I

caused the garden-gate to be opened, and on entering I discovered a considerable number of blacks of both sexes, the greater part of whom being loaded with fetters, began to clap their hands for joy, knowing that I was going to deliver them from the chains and captivity in which they were groaning. I next proceeded to arrest the owner of the factory; and on counting the slaves, I found by the lists that were handed to me, that 164 were employed in gathering urzella and farm labour, and that 50 men and 33 women, then in irons, 37 female children, 69 males, and 5 infants, were designed for embarkation,—as the servants themselves of the factory declared, and the Portuguese-speaking blacks corroborated them; the whole amounting to the number of 194 were taken. Taking into consideration, then, all these proofs, it is plain that the slaves in irons were there only for the purpose of being embarked for exportation, and that the principal agent in that iniquitous speculation is, beyond a doubt, the said Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, who has probably been also the agent in all the shipments which have recently been made to the southward of this district. Accordingly, I took into custody, and conveyed on board the brig under my command, not only the said Xavier, but also the 194 blacks intended for shipment, taking off their irons, which I keep in my possession. I did not proceed to the destruction of the factory, knowing that that establishment is intended also for farming purposes and lawful trade, for which purpose I left there all the slaves who were employed so usefully. Finally, it remains for me to report to your Excellency, that as I am not at liberty to delay the execution of the service required of me by His Majesty, by conveying the prisoners to Loanda, I have been obliged to put into Benguella, where I leave them under charge in the Castle of St. Philip; and on my return from the southern coast, I will receive them on board again, in order that they may be handed over to the proper Court at Loanda, and dealt with according to law.

(Signed) JOAO MAXIMO DA SILVA RODOVALHO,
Captain.

*Brig "Serra do Pilar," at anchor in the Port of Benguella,
November 21, 1854.*

No. 362.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 26, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th instant,* inclosing a copy of a despatch from Captain Rodovalho, in command of the Portuguese brig "Serra do Pilar," on the west coast of Africa, reporting the capture, by him, of 194 negroes intended for shipment, and the arrest of the person concerned in the project; and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have learned with satisfaction the success of Captain Rodovalho's expedition, and that he has been rewarded by his Government for his praiseworthy exertions on this occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 363.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch† from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Arbitrator in the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission Court at Loanda, announcing the departure from that

* No. 361.

† Class A, No. 82.

place of the Rev. Mr. Livingstone, to resume his travels in the interior of Africa, after having met with the most friendly treatment during his stay at Loanda.

No. 364.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, stating that Major Amaral, the President of the Provisional Government of Angola, has informed them that he is ready to cooperate with them in the most cordial and zealous manner towards the extinction of the Slave Trade; and I have to instruct you to express to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction which this assurance on the part of Major Amaral has afforded to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No 365.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a memorandum which has been drawn up by Mr. Brand, the British Vice-Consul at Loanda, relative to the Decree which was published by the Portuguese Government on the 14th of December last, providing for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves in the colonial possessions of Portugal.

As the opinions expressed in this paper are founded upon a personal knowledge of the mode of conducting the system of slavery in an important colony of Portugal, and as the suggestions made by Mr. Brand appear to me to be capable of being practically and usefully applied in the preparation of the Code of Instructions which you state in your despatch of the 10th ultimo,† is now under the consideration of the Portuguese Colonial Board, I have to instruct you to communicate to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs a copy of the inclosed memorandum, and to state, to his Excellency that it will afford much satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government if the Colonial Council should find it practicable to embody in the new system for the emancipation of slaves, any of the provisions suggested by Mr. Brand, and more particularly those which are intended to improve the process of registration; to give the negroes the means of obtaining agricultural instruction, and of earning money to purchase their freedom; and generally to facilitate the transition of the slaves from their present condition to that of free men.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 365.

Memorandum.

ON a general view of the Portuguese Decree of the 14th December, 1854, relative to the registration and redemption of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of the Crown of Portugal, I fully agree, as relates to many of its provisions, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, that their tendency is beneficent and likely, if duly enforced, to improve the condition of the negroes.

* Class A, No. 81.

† No. 360.

1. Among the beneficent enactments, besides the advantages to be expected from registration, there stands prominently forth the important declaration of right of redemption contained in the VIth Article.

2. The establishment of a Board of Protection charged with important functions calculated to benefit the negro whilst in a state of slavery, in his transition from that state, and after attaining the condition of a "liberto," also deserves special notice, as I believe this Board is the first institution publicly recognized and acknowledged in the Portuguese colonies, holding forth the right of appeal to the slave population in general, and possessing a corresponding power to afford aid and protection.

3. I should also notice the declared validity of trusts for the benefit of the slave (Articles XXXIV and XXXV); the privileges conceded to the funds belonging to slaves and "libertos" (Article XV); the preference to be given in public sales of slaves to offers made for their redemption (Article XXXVII); the prohibition of the separation of husband and wife, and of mother and child (Article XXXVIII); and the penal enactments contained in Articles XL and XLI relative to the detention, as slaves, of free persons or "libertos," and to the sale of children by their parents.

It must be admitted that such enactments have a beneficent tendency; but, fearful as to their application and enforcement, I am obliged to add that I look upon them rather as embracing a public recognition and formal declaration of rights, than as containing a present and efficient remedy for existing evils. Such a recognition and declaration, however, must be held as important points gained.

But besides my fears respecting the enforcement of the best of these provisions, there are, I think, omissions and defects in the Decree itself which affect and materially impair its whole tendency. It will not escape notice, that some of its provisions which, taken by themselves, appear liberal, are modified by others subsequently introduced. Thus, for instance, the provision contained in Article VI§, respecting slaves the property of the State, is modified by Article XXIX§, and in like manner, the tendencies of Article IV and of Article XXXI are checked by the provisions of Articles VII and XXXII.

1. One prominent feature of the measure is this, that nothing whatever is done for the immediate and complete emancipation of any portion of the slave population. Not a single slave becomes a free man by the present operation of the Decree. Certain classes of negroes attain the middle state of "libertos;" but beyond this state not one of them can at present advance. Children under five years of age, redeemed at baptism are indeed declared to be fully free, and they would, therefore, seem to form an exception, as regards any who may be so redeemed immediately on the publication of the Decree, but even, in their case, they are free only in name, as they continue in the condition of "libertos" until they attain the legal age of majority (Article XXXII).

2. A second feature deserves notice, and it is this, that no provision is made for the complete emancipation of slaves in future, except by passing through the middle state of "libertos." Slaves the property of the State appear by Article XXX, to be in the condition of "libertos" during their seven years of servitude. Slaves not registered within the thirty days, prescribed by Article I, or imported by land after publication of the Decree. Children redeemed at baptism; illegitimate children of slave owners, Article XXXIX; and those slaves who may purchase their freedom, all pass into this middle state. There is no direct transition, either present or future, from a state of slavery, to one of complete freedom, for Article XXIX clearly states, that "every slave" who may have in any way obtained his liberty, passes immediately into the condition of a "liberto," &c.

3. I mention further, that among the provisions of the Decree but little of a practical tendency is to be found as to the mode of transition from the condition of a "liberto" to that of a freeman. The condition of "liberto" seems to be the measure and limit of the negro's freedom. Slaves the property of the State, and slaves imported by land after publication of the Decree are not declared to be free men after the expiry of their respective periods of service; they are "libertos" during these periods, and they appear to be in the same social status after their completion, for they are not included in any of the twelve classes of free men mentioned in Article XXX. I will subsequently have occasion to notice, that the attainments and qualifications requisite for being

comprehended in almost any one of these classes, are practically beyond the reach of the majority of negroes in the condition of "libertos." Again, as regards the Board of Protection, whilst its functions with respect to the redemption of slaves are set forth, and the form of process pretty fully detailed in chapter III, I do not find any enactment relative to the duties of the Board in aiding the "liberto" in his passage from that state to the condition of a free man.

These three features appear to me defects; and their tendency, I fear, is to retard the progress of the negro in advancing to the enjoyment of complete freedom.

The preamble of the Decree, in fact, speaks chiefly of two matters;—the removal of ambiguity in the law relative to the rights of owners of slaves, and the proper definition of the terms "liberto," and "condition of liberto." What the preamble says respecting complete freedom is very indefinite, and is expressed in the general terms,—“until the necessary measures shall be adopted in order that the principles of personal liberty and equality, may have their full and liberal application” (*em quanto se não tomam as providencias convenientes, &c.*).

From these general remarks I would desire to proceed to examine the measure more in detail, but in doing so I meet with several difficulties which prevent me from judging fully of its provisions.

1. The Governors of the Ultramarine Provinces are authorised by Article XLVI to adopt provisionally the necessary measures for the execution of the Decree; these measures, though materially affecting its practical working, cannot be judged of at present.

2. The same remark applies to the measures to be adopted by the Board of Protection, for its guidance with regard to the protection of slaves (Articles XVI and XVII).

3. Further, there are two documents regulating the execution of the Decree in some of its most important provisions, which I have not seen. These are the Decree of the 30th December, 1852, establishing Curatorships of slaves, "libertos," &c. (Article XI, § 1), and the regulations of the 25th October, 1853. The latter of these documents is mentioned six times in the body of the Decree; its VIIth Article regulates the whole system of registration proposed (see Articles I and IV), and its provisions in general are mentioned as regulating the service for twelve years imposed on negroes introduced by land, after publication of the Decree (Article VII), and the services of "libertos" of the State, during a period of seven years (Article XXIX, §), as guiding the Board of Protection provisionally in its proceedings and administration, as respects all "libertos" (Article XXX), and finally as limiting, in terms of its XIIth Article, the contracts for service entered into with African Chiefs (see Article XLIII).

For these reasons—the impossibility of judging of measures yet to be adopted, and my not possessing the documents above-mentioned—I am not in a position to pass judgment on some of the most important matters to which the Decree applies. Among these, are details of the system of registration to be adopted both as regards slaves and "libertos," the rules which are to guide the Board of Protection in watching over the interests of negroes whilst in a state of slavery, the principles of administration to be followed by that Board as respects "libertos," and the regulations affecting the services of those "libertos" who are obliged to serve their owners, whether private individuals or the State, for a period of years. What can be said by me as to the details of the measure in question must, therefore, be modified and limited by these considerations.

This Decree, having for its avowed object the amelioration of the condition of the negro, seems to contemplate present protection, and eventual but I fear only partial, emancipation. These ends to be attained—

I. By a system of registration.

II. By the establishment of a Protectorate.

Registration.

As regards registration, all, or nearly all, that is said on this subject, is contained in the first Chapter of the Decree, consisting of five short Articles. The substance of these Articles appears to be, that all slaves in the Portuguese

colonies, at the date of the publication of the Decree, have to be registered within thirty days before the respective authorities of the administrative districts, &c., within which they reside in the manner prescribed by the VIIth Article of the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, that slaves in these colonies, but not so registered, shall be considered "libertos;" that slaves introduced by land, after publication of the Decree, shall be registered in a separate book, but likewise in the manner prescribed by the VIIth Article of the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853; that quarterly returns shall be sent from the districts to the Governor of the province, who shall make returns to the Secretary of State, setting forth the names, sexes, and ages of the slaves registered; and finally, that in all judicial proceedings respecting liberty, a certificate of registration shall form an essential part of the "Autos." With the addition of a passing reference in Article VII, § 2, and an Instruction to the Board of Protection, Article XXX, the above is really all that is said in the Decree on the subject of Registration. It would appear that the negroes referred to in Article IV are to be registered in a separate book; but it does not appear, whether the returns mentioned in the paragraph of that Article relate solely to them or not. Two registers appear to be prescribed, one for slaves and one for negroes subsequently introduced; but nothing is said as to the registration of the class referred to in Article II, whether with the former or the latter. The Board of Protection would seem, by Article XXX, to have something to do with the registration of libertos; but with respect to the officers to be employed, duties to be performed, and indeed as regards all details, the Decree is silent. These will, doubtless, be more or less fully set forth in the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, already referred to; but, as I have not seen these Regulations, all I can do is to endeavour to indicate some leading features which I think should characterize such a system of registration as that in question. With other necessary provisions it ought at least to comprehend—

1. A threefold classification of the negroes registered.
2. A system of triplicate registration.
3. Periodical returns of material changes of condition.
4. An annual visitation and inspection.

1. *Classified Registration.*

There are three classes of negroes in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions, with the exception of those that are insular, who, I think, ought to be registered separately:—

All negroes presented and proved to be slaves, and registered within the prescribed time; all negroes in the condition of "libertos," except those introduced after publication of the Decree, and all negroes introduced after publication of the Decree.

After the expiry of the prescribed time, all slaves resident in the colony at that time, but not registered, become "libertos;" the slave-population, properly so-called, will consequently be, from that time, limited to those so registered and their children. The expiry of the time prescribed for registration forms, in fact, an important epoch respecting domestic slavery in the Portuguese colonies; for the number of slaves then ascertained to exist ought to become fixed and permanent, except in so far as it may be affected by births, deaths, redemption, and the operation of the Vth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842. The beneficent objects contemplated by the Decree affecting the slaves, would, I think, be more easily attained by their being registered as a distinct class of the negro population.

The condition of the next class renders it most desirable that they should be dealt with, as regards registration and all other matters, by themselves; and that the line separating the liberto from the slave should be as broad and well defined as possible; and that, moreover, every measure should be taken to prevent the record and evidence of their actual condition from being in any way mixed up with the record relating to those in the condition from which they have escaped.

The last class of negroes, on account of their having to be introduced by land, can form no part of the negro population of the insular colonial possessions of Portugal. They are so introduced after publication of the Decree; and from this circumstance alone form a separate class. The condition of these

negroes, introduced as "libertos," but obliged to serve their owners for ten years, during which period they may be bought and sold, is peculiar and exceptional; and they require to be jealously watched over, lest, under the name of *libertos*, their condition should become worse than that of slaves. Their separate registration is, therefore, desirable, and indeed would seem to be provided for, in part, by the IVth Article of the Decree.

2. *Triplicate Registration.*

The triplicate registration which I would propose, and of which I need only suggest an outline, should be carried out by District Registrars, a Registrar-General in the capital of each colony, and by the Board of Protection. It appears to me, that this threefold registration carried out by different classes of officers, each acting as a check upon the others, would tend to render the execution of the measure more sure and complete. The negroes should in the first instance be presented and registered before the District Registrar, whose returns to the Registrar-General should be kept by that officer, after being entered in the general register, it should then be incumbent on the Registrar-General to transmit authentic copies of the returns received from the District-Registrars, to be entered in the register of the Board of Protection. Heavy penalties ought to attach to District-Registrars making incorrect or incomplete returns, and it should be in the power of the Board as well as the duty of the Registrar-General to send special officers at any time in cases of doubt, to inspect the district registers and take all necessary steps for ascertaining that they are correctly kept. The general register kept in the capital, and the register kept by the Board of Protection, should be at all times open to the inspection respectively of the members of the Board and the Registrar-General. Further, in every district, besides the District-Registrar, there ought to be a resident agent of the Board of Protection, who should be present at every act of the registration within the district, and report the same without delay to the Board. It would be among the duties of this officer, to see that no negroes are registered as slaves but those really in that condition, and that "*libertos*" are properly registered as such. The attention of this officer should be specially directed to the class of "*libertos*" mentioned in the IVth and VIIth Articles of the Decree. No slaves or "*libertos*" ought to be registered without being actually brought before the District-Registrar, who in the presence of the district agent of the Board of Protection should, after fully ascertaining the negroes' real condition, and real owner, employer, &c., cause the same with any other particular to be fully set forth in the register. The particulars enumerated in the IIInd Article of the Spanish Decree of 22nd March, 1854, seem to comprehend almost all, changing the term owner to that of employer, in the case of a "*liberto*," and adding a description of any distinguishing mark or marks on the body of the negro. As by the natural operation of the decree in fixing the number of the slave population, there will arise a strong temptation to evade it by registering as slaves, negroes who may not be in that condition, and also by registering the same negro more than once with the view of subsequently introducing fresh slaves to make up the number, the greatest care should be taken by the district officers to prevent such deceptions being practised. The marks on the body of each negro registered, ought to be fully described and care taken to detect any traces of such marks being subsequently altered. A special mark put on the body of each negro when registered, might tend to check attempts at this species of deception, as it would serve as a symbol of previous registration. This symbol ought to be changed from time to time. Penalties similar to those mentioned in the IVth, Vth, and VIth Articles of the Spanish Decree, should attach to district officers, owners of slaves or others practising or conniving at the practice of any fraudulent act tending to vitiate the district registers, such as altering the symbolic mark of registration on the body of a negro, &c. The issuing of register tickets or certificates of registration are mentioned in the XIIth, XIIIth, and XIVth Articles of the Spanish Decree, and might be introduced as an additional check. They should be issued annually in triplicate, one to be delivered to the slave, another to his owner, and the third deposited with the Board of Protection. Each certificate should give a summary description of the slave, mention the place and date of his registration, name and residence

of his owner, and have impressed on it a mark corresponding with the symbol of registration on the negro's body. These certificates ought to be of a size to allow the endorsement of any change taking place in the condition of the slave during the year subsequent to their being issued. "Libertos" generally should bear a symbolic mark on their bodies indicating both their condition and registration, and each should possess an authentic copy of his letter of freedom, in addition to a copy of the certificate of registration. The duplicate of this certificate should be delivered to their employers, or to their masters, in the case of apprentices. The libertos introduced under the IVth and VIIth Articles of the Decree ought to have a symbolic mark on their bodies different from that of other "libertos." On their introduction they should be immediately presented to the district agent of the Board of Protection, whose duty it would be to see them properly registered and located, and, independently of the returns to be made by the District-Registrar, to report all particulars to the Board. Neglect or fraud on the part of the person introducing the negroes should be punished by the loss of all right in the services of the negroes for the prescribed period.

3. *Periodical Returns.*

Periodical returns from each district of all material changes in the condition of the negro, should form a part of the system of registration. In these returns, there ought, at least, to be comprehended, births, deaths, marriages, changes of ownership, whether by sale, succession, or otherwise, changes of residence within, and of removals beyond, the district. These changes ought to be reported by owners, employers, &c., to the district officers, whose duty it should be to report the facts at the time, to the Registrar-General and Board of Protection respectively. These changes should further be duly registered, and an endorsement to that effect made on the certificates of all registered negroes, and it should be an instruction to all District-Registrars to send classified and detailed returns thereof at the end of each quarter to the Registrar-General, to be by him communicated to the Board of Protection. In case of deaths, the report ought to be made to the district officers in time sufficient to allow them to investigate the cause before interment. Some of the rules laid down in the XVIth Article of Annex C to the Slave Trade Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, for the guidance of Curators in the case of deceased apprentices, might be adopted with advantage by the district officers. The penalty in the case of births might be the full emancipation of the children born, with an obligation on the owner to maintain them, or pay the charge of their maintenance for a certain number of years; in the case of marriages, the full emancipation of both parties, and in the case of deaths a pecuniary penalty. All sales of slaves, all transfers of rights of property in slaves, and contracts for slave labour not registered and endorsed on the certificate of registration should be declared invalid and the slaves declared free, and like consequences as affecting the slaves, should follow when removed beyond the district without previous notice given and endorsement of certificates. On arrival within the new district, registration and endorsement of certificates should follow, under like penalties. Most of these penalties might with certain modifications apply to the case of "libertos." Similar results as regards the liberty of the negro, should follow neglect or connivance on the part of the district officers, but in the case of neglect they should be obliged to make compensation for loss of services. Besides the penalties above mentioned, all parties concerned would be further amenable to the operation of the law for criminal acts or proceedings arising out of an abuse of authority or neglect of duty.

4. *Annual Visitation.*

Besides the occasional visits of special officers sent by the Registrar-General and Board of Protection mentioned under the second head, there ought to be an annual visitation and inspection of all registers and registered negroes. This should be made by at least two officers, one appointed by the Government, the other by the Board of Protection. It would be difficult to detail all the duties which in course of time it might be found advantageous to

intrust to these visiting officers, but it should be incumbent on them to inquire into all matters affecting the welfare and industrial progress of the registered negroes with a view to propose amendments to the Government and Board of Protection:—they might further be invested with a correctional jurisdiction in summarily disposing of complaints, and settling differences in trivial cases, and they should have full power and authority in graver matters, to hold investigations, cite parties, and take depositions with a view to ulterior proceedings. It should be among the duties of these officers—

To see that the local registers are correctly kept;

To visit and call before them all registered negroes with a view to instituting suitable inquiries as to their condition and industrial and educational progress;

To superintend the annual issue of fresh certificates of registration, and to see that the old ones, as well as those of negroes deceased, redeemed or fully emancipated, are duly cancelled.

Such, in outline, are some of the features which I think ought to characterise a system of registration adapted to the peculiar condition of the negro population in the Portuguese colonies.

There is however one other point which I would just notice as tending, I think, to render the measure more complete, and that is an equitable valuation of slaves at the time of their registration. Such a valuation would enable the Government to ascertain more fully the real amount of the alleged difficulty of a general emancipation,—the compensation to be awarded,—and it would further serve as the basis of subsequent calculations in cases of individual redemption by purchase.

Protectorate.

The establishment of a Board of Protection is, as already stated, a prominent feature of the measure and its constitution is given, in Articles IX, X and XI, Chapter II of the Decree. As the seat of the Board is in the capital of the Colony, and the official duties of its members require that they should reside there also, it becomes necessary, for the purposes contemplated, that there should be agents of the Board in each district, to be in correspondence with the District-Registrar, in the same manner as the Board itself would be in correspondence with the Registrar-General.

It is possible, that the Curatorships mentioned in the XIth Article, as established in one, and to be extended to all the Ultramarine Provinces, may comprehend duties similar to those of District Agents of the Board, but not having seen the Decree of the 30th December, 1852, I am unable to do more than allude to them. It appears by the XLIVth and XLVth Articles, that the Board is to make half-yearly reports of its labours to the Governor of the province, who is annually to report to the Government on the general execution of the Decree.

The labours of the Board seem to contemplate two classes, slaves and “libertos,” or negroes in that condition.

With regard to slaves, these labours relate to two objects, protection and redemption.

With respect to protection, certain general duties of the Board are prescribed in the XIIth Article, as affecting both slaves and “libertos,” whilst in the XVIth Article, other duties also of a general character, but specially relating slaves, are set forth. From these Articles, it appears in substance to be incumbent on the Board, as far as slaves are concerned, to exercise over them the rights of protection, tutelage, and paternal authority; to collect and administer all monies, whether acquired by themselves, bequeathed or bestowed in any way by others on their behalf, having in view chiefly their redemption; to see that the powers of owners be exercised within the limits of humanity and religion; and to institute and follow up such legal proceedings as may be requisite for securing to them their liberty.

These are general duties, but as to the details and the means by which they may be enforced I am unable to speak at present, as it will be seen by the XVIIth Article that the Board is authorized to draw up rules for the regulation of these matters, and adapted to the circumstances of the Province, which rules, after obtaining the approval of the Governor and Council of Govern-

ment of the colony, are to be put into execution provisionally. Before, however they can be adopted definitively, they require the approval of the Regent, after being examined by the Ultramarine Council at Lisbon.

Until these rules be definitively adopted, it is impossible to judge of the practical tendency of this part of the Decree.

Whatever other matters these rules may eventually embrace, they ought to make a practical provision for the following:

1. A restraint on the owners' power to inflict punishment.
2. A right to suitable food and clothing and medical aid.
3. A legal right to demand redress for all injuries affecting either their persons or the property they may have acquired.
4. A cessation of all Sunday labour.
5. A limitation of the hours of week-day labour.
6. The means of acquiring a moral, religious and industrial education.

I now come to the important question of redemption of slaves, or their transition from slavery to the condition of "libertos." There are six modes by which this redemption is secured by the provisions of the Decree, and these provisions consequently affect six classes of negroes.

1. Those not registered within thirty days after the publication of the Decree (Article II).

2. Those introduced by land after publication of the Decree (Articles IV and VII).

3. Those belonging to the state (Articles VI § and XXIX).

4. The illegitimate children of owners, &c. (Article XXXIX).

5. Children under five years of age redeemed at baptism (Articles XXXI and XXXII).

6. Those able to purchase their redemption (Article VI).

The first, second, third, and fourth classes become "libertos" by operation of the Decree alone, and the duties of the Board on this head, with regard to them would seem to be those of aiding them, when requisite, in obtaining a formal recognition and registration of their new condition. The fifth and sixth classes, however, are differently situated, and they obtain their condition not by mere operation of the Decree, but by purchase under its provisions. I call the payment of five mil reis purchase, and I call the class (fifth) on whose behalf that sum is paid "libertos," as they are considered to be in that condition till they attain the age of majority. The form of process by which the sixth class can obtain redemption through the intervention of the Board, is set forth in the XIXth, XXth, XXIst, XXIIInd, XXIIIrd, XXIVth, XXVth, XXVIth and XXVIIth Articles, Chapter III.

This form of process is sufficiently intelligible. The slave is, in the first instance, to apply to the agent or delegate of the Board of Protection, whose duty it is to call the owner of the slave before the "Judge of Conciliation," and if the matter can be arranged amicably then the proceedings terminate in the liberation of the negro. Should such, however, not be the case, the delegate has to apply to the superior judicial authority to take steps for naming three persons competent to settle the value of the slave, one to act for each party, and a third to act as arbitrator, if necessary. These persons being nominated and sworn, the first and second shall, before the Judge in public session, proceed to the valuation, keeping in view the condition and abilities of the slave as set forth in the XXIVth Article, § 1; and should they disagree, the third is to decide within the limits pointed out in Article XXIV, § 3. The superior Judge then completes the proceedings by confirming the decision of the valuers. In cases where slaves form part of an inheritance and are therein described and valued, such valuation is to be adopted without further proceedings as the price of Redemption, Article XXVII. The process above mentioned must always be concluded within eight days, and the slave may from its commencement (Article XXI) be placed in safe keeping and beyond the control of his owner. The letters of freedom to be delivered to the "liberto" are described in the XXIIInd, § 1, and XXVth Articles. The costs of process in cases of conciliation, are to be paid by the owner and the slave in equal parts, in other cases wholly by the former; so much for the form of process, but before it can be instituted the necessary funds must be obtained. The funds at the disposal of the Board of Protection appear to come from the following sources:—

1. Legacies, trusts, and charitable donations mentioned in the XIIth Article for the redemption of slaves, and the maintenance and education of slaves and "libertos."

2. Money legitimately acquired by the slaves themselves (Article XVI, Par. 2.)

3. Gifts or legacies for the redemption of slaves under five years of age, at baptism (Article XXXI, Section 3).

4. Trusts for the benefit of slaves after attaining the condition of "libertos," and which may be in whole or in part employed in their Redemption from slavery (Article XXXIV).

5. Under Article XXXVI, a part of the proceeds of the labour of "libertos," the proceeds of penalties and fines imposed by the Decree; 5 per cent. on the prices for which slaves are sold, that portion of the revenues of municipalities and hospitals which may be voted by the General Juntas, or by Governors-General in Council, subsidiary votes of the General Juntas, or Governors-General, and in the Kingdom of Angola a per-centage on what is paid for the services of negroes employed as carriers.

6. The portion belonging to the state of all penalties and fines imposed for breach of the laws respecting the Slave Trade, and also the amount of unredeemed bonds under the XXIVth Article of the Decree of the 10th December, 1836.

Article XLII. The funds arising out of the third source have a special application to the redemption of children at baptism, those accruing from the first, second, and fourth, may be applied in part to the redemption of the sixth class of negroes mentioned; but in the present state of feeling as regards the slave population in the Portuguese colonies, I do not think, that much can be expected from first and fourth.

As to the general funds at the disposal of the Board, I greatly fear they will be found insufficient to carry out the various objects contemplated; at least, it is impossible to say what amount, after providing for other necessities, can be appropriated to the redemption of negroes.

From these considerations, therefore, and under present circumstances, it is chiefly to the second source that I would look. The Decree speaks of money legitimately acquired by the slaves themselves; but in order to their acquiring such money it is necessary to give them facilities for doing so, and every effort should be made by the Board to encourage the slaves to work out, by industrial means, their own redemption. With this view I would propose, besides the limitation of labour on week days within reasonable bounds, that a certain portion of each week should be allowed the slaves for the purpose of devoting it to industrial pursuits; that the Board should endeavour to give them every facility in learning trades, and that the proceeds arising from these industrial pursuits during the portion of the week allowed them, should go to providing the funds for their redemption.

Further, that the Board, for the purpose of giving encouragement, should devote a portion of its funds to premiums to be awarded for good conduct in industrial vocations. The premiums should be given in the shape of sums of money to be applied in assisting the negro in procuring the means necessary for obtaining his liberation. In this way the slave would not only be encouraged to work out his own redemption but in doing so would acquire industrial habits fitting him for a state of liberty.

For the same purpose, I think that tracts of waste lands, at present of no value, should be placed by the Government at the disposal of the Board for the instruction and encouragement of other sets of slaves in agricultural industry during the portion of time allotted to them; the proceeds arising from the cultivation of the lands to be applied to their liberation. Premiums in this branch of industry should also be awarded by the Board, thus, for instance, the bringing into a proper state of cultivation a certain extent of land, might be rewarded by the Board providing a certain portion of the price of the slave's redemption. Besides the industrial habits acquired, tracts of land might thus be brought into cultivation which are now waste and useless. Further, the slaves, after attaining the condition of "libertos," might still continue to occupy the ground reclaimed by them for the benefit of the Board, and arrangements might follow, after a certain period of occupation, for it becoming their own property, and as "libertos" who have acquired any landed

property become, by the operation of the XXXIII Article, Paragraph 11, freemen in the full, entire, and absolute enjoyment of all the rights of citizenship, the negro, by this plan, would have open before him the path by which he could work his way from a state of slavery to one of perfect freedom. By this system of agricultural settlements and training, another class of negroes would be fitted, on liberation, for acting as administrators of estates, a position likewise entitling them, by Article XXXIII, Paragraph 12, to all the rights of freemen. Considering the state of feeling in the Portuguese colonies as regards slavery, I cannot expect that much will be given from sympathy or benevolence for the liberation of the negro; and fearing much that the general resources of the Board will go but a little way, it would, in the meantime, and until a liberal scheme of emancipation shall be offered, be chiefly to a well regulated plan for rendering the industrial progress of the negro the means of eventually bringing about his own redemption that I would look.

In the valuation of slaves with a view to redemption, the following matters seem to deserve notice:—

1. In the XXIVth Article, § 1, it is an instruction to the valuers to take into consideration the slave's state of health, knowledge, abilities, &c.; it appears to me, that lengthened period of service, during which these abilities have been subservient solely to the owner's benefit, should also be taken into consideration and operate in the favour of the slave.

2. In the valuation of slaves acquired by way of inheritance, it is prescribed by the XXVIIth Article, that the price of redemption shall be that for which they are valued in the inheritance. This rule should not be absolute, as such slaves might be put down in the inventories of such inheritances at exorbitant valuations, solely with the view of rendering their liberation more difficult.

3. In the liberation of married slaves care should be taken not to break up families, the husband and wife should, if possible, be liberated at the same time, and the liberation of the parents should carry with it that of all children under a certain age.

The second class of negroes whose benefit the functions of the Board of Protection contemplate, is that of "libertos," or those in the middle state between slaves and freemen. I have already mentioned the six classes of negroes who, by the operations of or under the provisions of the Decree may attain that condition. All these classes of "libertos" would appear by the XXXth Article to be equally under the control of the Board; but the manner in which this control is to be exercised is only expressed in general terms. Besides the provisions in the XIIth, XIIIth, and XIVth, and XVth Articles, applicable to "libertos" in common with slaves, the XVIIIth Article states, that on the Board devolves the protection of their persons and property, and that it has to direct their education, to provide for the necessities of the poor and helpless, and generally to watch over all.

As in the case of slaves I am unable to speak of details because these appear to depend on the regulations of the 25th of October, 1853, which the Board is directed, in the XXXth Article, to adopt provisionally for its government.

These regulations should tend, as much as possible, to attain three great objects with respect to "libertos"—

1. Security as to their liberty, their persons, and their property.
2. Provision for their educational and industrial progress.
3. Facilities for advancing to a state of complete freedom.

In connection with the first head, there should be every security against the "libertos" being either actually reduced again to a state of slavery, or placed in a condition in reality only different from it in name. As bearing on the former point, there are some provisions of the Decree calculated to afford the desired security, if duly enforced. These relate to free men or "libertos" detained as slaves. There is a penal enactment on this head in the XLth Article, in the 4th paragraph of the XVI Article it is declared to be one of the duties incumbent on the Board to institute and carry out the necessary judicial proceedings for the restitution of the liberty of such persons; and in the XXVIIIth Article these proceedings are mentioned. But besides what is there provided for, great regard should be paid to the acquired liberty of "libertos" generally, and specially as respects the two classes who are in the exceptional condition of

being "libertos" yet obliged to serve their own owners for a period of years, namely, those belonging to the State, and those introduced after publication of the Decree.

The latter class deserves special notice; as they are to be introduced by land "importados por terra," they can form no part of the negro population of the insular colonial possessions of Portugal, such as the Islands of Cape Verd, St. Thomas, and Prince. The provisions of the Decree specially referring to them are, that they are to be registered in a separate book within thirty days; that they are to be considered in the condition of "libertos," but obliged to serve their owners for ten years, under the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853; that their services, for the whole or a part of this period, may be sold, and that the certificate of their registration is indispensable in order to claim from them the services in question. (Articles IV and VII.)

Ignorance of the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, leaves me in the dark as to the conditions of their service; but what follows in the VIIIth Article claims attention. It is there stated, that they have the same right as is conceded to slaves by Article VI—right of redemption—and further, that all the provisions of the Decree which refer to slaves are applicable to them. There seems something conflicting, at first sight, in this right of redemption as regards these "libertos," for it cannot be supposed to apply to them after their period of service is completed, nor can it accrue to them during that period if the right of the owners is to be considered absolute. I suppose, therefore, it implies that the rule as to ten years' service is not absolute, and that part of this period may be redeemed. The right of sale appertaining to their owners, combined with the general declaration that all provisions of the Decree relating to slaves are applicable to them, seems to imply too much of an approximation in the conditions of the two classes.

It cannot be denied that it is most desirable to increase the industrious population of the Portuguese ultra-marine possessions; but I fear that in the present condition of these colonies, and of the Province of Angola especially, a species of Slave Trade might be carried on under the pretext of introducing the class of "libertos" in question.

Hitherto much of the trade carried on in the interior of the province, and a still greater part of that carried on by Portuguese merchants, or their agents, with the native tribes beyond the Portuguese territories, has involved large purchases of slaves, who, once brought into the province, readily pass from hand to hand, and there can be no doubt often were, and, it is to be feared, in many cases, yet are subsequently shipped to the Brazils.

The operation of the Decree in fixing the slave population will affect this branch of trade inasmuch as no more slaves can be introduced by land avowedly as such; but there can be no doubt that efforts will be made to evade the provisions of the Decree, and that there will be attempts to introduce, as *libertos*, the same class of negroes who were formerly brought in as slaves, and with the view of disposing of them, if possible, in a similar way. It therefore becomes necessary that there should be regulations to prevent, as far as possible, the right of introduction being used only or chiefly as subservient to the right of sale; in other words, the negroes should be introduced as industrial settlers, and not as mere articles of trade to be bought and sold at the will of those claiming a right to their services. The power of arbitrary sale ought to be checked, and the condition of the negroes introduced assimilated as much as possible to that of free colonists brought in under the obligation of serving under well-defined conditions for a certain period.

The term of ten years appears to me too long, and I think it might be substituted by a sliding scale of service, varying from three to seven years, according to the age or abilities of the negroes. In the introduction of the class of negroes in question, the following, among other conditions, might tend to check the abuses referred to.

1. That no negroes should be introduced without the previous sanction of the Board of Protection, after the person desirous of introducing them giving satisfactory evidence that they are to be employed in some legitimate branch of colonial industry.

2. That in their introduction there should be no separation of husband and wife, or parent and child under a certain age; that there should be, in all cases,

a certain proportion of females, and that every encouragement should be given to marriages and permanent settlements in the colony.

3. That there should be an obligation on the person introducing the negroes to teach them some trade, and to pay a certain amount of wages to those employed merely as domestic servants or field-labourers.

4. That the power of sale given in Article VII, § 1, should be so regulated as to render it not an absolute but a conditional right never to be exercised without the sanction of the Board of Protection, and only in such cases as the death of the master, his removal from the colony, or such alteration in his circumstances as might oblige him to reduce or break up his establishment.

In such cases it would be the duty of the Board to see that the negroes were suitably disposed of for the remaining portions of their respective terms of service.

These, or similar conditions, would, I think, not only ameliorate the social condition of the negro population in the Portuguese colonies, but also, as regards the Province of Angola, by their tendency to check the internal trade in negroes, influence materially the export Slave Traffic.

As regards the second head—provision for the educational and industrial progress of the *libertos*—I need say little. The Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, it is to be hoped, will be found to contain what is requisite for promoting their educational and industrial advancement; at all events, I presume it must be the duty of the Board of Protection to see that these important objects are attained. I need not refer to the importance of “*libertos*” being taught some useful business, trade, or mechanical art, whereby they may be subsequently able to maintain themselves; but I would again allude to the scheme of agricultural settlements, already mentioned, when speaking of the redemption of slaves.

I believe, that the *libertos* might, under the superintendence of the Board of Protection, be settled on waste lands with great advantage to themselves and the colony. In the territories included under the general Government of Angola, there are many facilities for carrying out such a scheme. These territories are supposed approximately to have a superficial extent of nearly 17,000 square leagues, whilst the population does not likely exceed 600,000. The country generally, except in the immediate vicinity of the coast, is described by all who have travelled through it as of great fertility, and the truth of this description is confirmed by that indefatigable missionary, Dr. Livingston, who, in his recent unrivalled journey in the interior of Southern Africa, came direct from Cassange in latitude 9° 37' south, longitude 17° 43' east of Greenwich, to St. Paul de Loanda. These fertile districts are at present waste and useless; and it appears to me, that an equitable scheme for the settlement of “*libertos*” as cultivators, and with the view of their ultimately becoming proprietors, would tend much to improve the internal condition and trade of the colony. A further advantage would result from this plan by encouraging a permanent race of settlers, who would likely fix their abode on the lands assigned to them, and these settlers, under proper care and encouragement, might establish and extend industrial habits, and obviate many of the evils which have arisen to the colony from the fluctuating and unsettled nature of its population.

I now come to the last head—namely, facilities for the “*libertos*” advancing to a complete state of freedom.

As regards this most important matter, I have already mentioned that I consider the provisions of the Decree, as far as I am able to judge of them, very defective. Their tendency in this respect seems to be, that of keeping the negro back, and making the condition of “*liberto*” the boundary beyond which he can scarcely pass. With the exception of children redeemed at baptism, there appears to be no way in which the “*liberto*” can attain the rights of complete freedom, except that of being in a position to be comprehended in some of the twelve classes enumerated in Article XXXIII. It is only necessary to glance at these twelve classes in order to see, that they make no practical provision for admitting the greater number of negroes in the condition of “*libertos*” to the benefits of free men. Some of these require educational attainments far beyond the reach of such negroes in general; whilst others, besides being from their nature limited to a comparatively small number, are, in the case of “*libertos*,” of very difficult attainment.

The first, second, third, and fourth classes—namely, graduates of the university of Coimbra, graduates of foreign universities, clergymen and members of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Lisbon—imply qualifications of an order so superior as to put their attainment beyond the reach of the African negro.

The fifth class—officers superior and inferior of the army and navy—must be considered as comprehending a comparatively limited number; and besides this, there is a decided unwillingness on the part of the Portuguese authorities to instruct negroes in the use of military arms.

The sixth and seventh classes again imply the possession of an education beyond the reach of the class of negroes in question.

The eighth class comprehends those who have served as members of municipal chambers, as administrators of concillos (sub-divisions of administrative districts) as popularly-elected judges, judicial clerks, or notaries—offices to which, I may safely say, negroes in the condition of “libertos” have no chance whatever of being raised either by election or appointment.

The ninth class comprehends wholesale merchants; retail dealers are not included, and it appears the liberto must struggle on till he becomes a wholesale dealer before he can attain the full rights of citizenship. This regulation seems to make the acquisition of these rights, in the case of “libertos” engaged in commerce, as difficult as possible.

The tenth class—book-keepers, and chief clerks of commercial houses hold out little hope to the “liberto,” these offices are responsible, comprehend but a comparatively small number of individuals, and are not of a kind which “libertos” are at all likely to be called upon to fill.

It is only in the eleventh and twelfth classes, namely, proprietors of landed property and managers of rural estates; that there is some hope held out to the “liberto;” and the possibility of his attaining the full rights of citizenship by either becoming the owner of land or being qualified to manage landed property, is one of the benefits of the scheme of agricultural settlements of negroes on waste lands to which I have already referred.

On a review of the twelve classes, it will be seen, that they contain nothing tending to advance the great majority of “libertos” onwards to the full enjoyment of freedom. No mention is made of such industrial classes as tradesmen, farmers, retail dealers, and others capable of maintaining themselves and their families by their own labour—egress from the condition of “libertos” seems to be rendered as impracticable as, in their case, it possibly can be, and there appears to be no outlet whatever for a free, industrious, and working population.

To remedy this defect, I venture only to make one suggestion, and it is this, that every “liberto” of age, and possessed of an income sufficient to maintain himself and his family, arising from property, trade, agriculture, industry, or office, should have a right to be admitted to the full privileges of citizenship.

This proposal refers to all “libertos” and of course includes those belonging to the State, and those introduced after publication of the decree. on their completing their respective periods of service, and possessing the necessary qualifications. In deciding the question of sufficient income, probably it would answer the purpose to take as the standard—the qualification prescribed in the LXVth Article, § 5, of the Portuguese constitutional charter for voters in the primary elections for deputies, that is to say, all “libertos” of age and able to prove themselves possessed of the income qualification entitling them to vote in the election of members of Electoral Colleges (which colleges subsequently elect the deputies), should also be entitled to all the rights of free men. Should such a regulation as that proposed be added to the provisions of the decree, I think that the outlet from the condition of “libertos” would be much widened, and that the qualifications for attaining the condition of free men would be practically brought within the reach of the greater number of this class of negroes. Encouragement would thus be given to industrial habits,—the true means of attaining, and the best qualification for enjoying, the benefits of complete freedom.

I have now endeavoured to analyse and review the Portuguese Decree of the 14th December last, as far as I have been able to do so in ignorance of the measures to be adopted for carrying it into execution, and without

having seen the documents which regulate some of its most important provisions. In consequence of not knowing the measures and nature of the documents referred to, I have been led in some cases to make suggestions, but when the nature of these measures and documents become known, it is possible that they will be found to contain regulations and provisions much better adapted for securing the important objects in question, than anything which I have ventured to propose.

As regards the general nature and tendency of the Decree, I reiterate the opinion which I expressed at the commencement of this paper.

*Stonehaven, North Britain,
February 24, 1855.*

G. BRAND.

PORTUGAL. . (Consular)—Cape Verds.

No. 366.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, May 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival at this place of the United States' sloop of war "Marion," Captain Purvanes, after a cruise of six months upon the western coast of Africa, to await the arrival of the American Commodore, who is expected daily from the Canary Islands.

I regret in being obliged to report to your Lordship that Captain Purvanes and his officers report the continued prevalence of the Slave Trade by the means of changing the American flag to that of the Spanish, the slave cargo being intended for Cuba. It is gratifying, however, to learn from the same source, that in their cruise they found a total absence of vessels under the Brazilian flag.

The "Marion" left these islands in November last, and proceeded along the African coast, as far south as Benguella, between which and Cabinda they cruised for some time.

From Bissao and Cacheu, dependencies of this Government upon the African coast, several cargoes of slaves have been shipped for Cuba, and I learn, at the former Settlement a large clipper schooner is building under the superintendence of Spanish carpenters, which is intended for the Cuba contraband trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 367.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, May 10, 1854

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that it has just been communicated to me, that a rising of the slaves against their masters has been discovered at Porto Praia, St. Jago, through the means of a negro woman, one of their own people.

I very much regret to learn this sad affair, brought about, however, by bad treatment; because it entails such dreadful misery upon the parties implicated. In this case, I learn, recourse has been had to the lash, which has been inflicted with very great severity, by repeated daily floggings. No lives have been summarily taken, but the sufferings that have been inflicted must be immense.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 368.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, May 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to bring under your Lordship's knowledge the want of a register of the resident domestic slaves in these islands.

In the absence of such a document, it is competent for the authorities, at any time, to deny the fact of the importation of new slaves.

I beg, however, to assure your Lordship that my information is very positive; that the system of importing slaves in the number of 10, continues by almost every vessel coming from Bissao. As I have before reported, this system is persevered in, under an impression that it is justifiable by Portuguese Decree of 1836, although it is notorious that the slave population of Bissao changes every two years, and renders the existence of slaves at that place eligible to the law in question an impossibility.

I am led to understand that a large increase of slaves has taken place at the Island of Sal, for the purpose of working salt; and that at St. Jago and Fuego a large increase has also taken place; and it is said that at the latter island no difficulty is experienced in finding the description of slave wanted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 369.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, August 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that it has been reported to me that a sale of slaves by public auction, in the public square of Porto Praia, St. Jago, took place about the 5th ultimo.

Judging from the price they fetched (60 to 80 dollars each), they could not have been old domestic slaves, but newly imported ones. This is however difficult to prove, in the absence of a public register of slaves.

The public exhibition of such a disgusting scene is quite uncommon, even at Porto Praia, as during my residence in these islands of fifteen years, I do not remember to have heard of a similar scene having occurred.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 370.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, September 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to make known to your Lordship that a vessel with 550 slaves on board appeared on and off for a couple of days, at Feijao de Argoa, in the Island of Brava, having been chased off the African coast, by a steamer and brig; when finding further delay very hazardous, as they learnt that the Governor-General resides in the town of the island near at hand, came to the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, and there remained for nine days, taking on board 100 pipes of water, with which she sailed for the Havana.

I subsequently learnt that a party landed from this ship, and had come over here and was waiting a passage to Lisbon. I therefore brought the matter under the review of the Military Commandant, who has detained the

individual in question until the pleasure of the Governor-General is known. A copy of my letter to the Commandant, with that officer's reply, I inclose.

This place of Terrafal de Monte Trigo is a favourite resort for slave-vessels: they can lay where they are not seen from seaward, and refreshments and water are procurable in abundance for a small consideration. The Portuguese have no fort or town nearer than two or three days' march across the mountains; consequently, no force can be sent against these piratical vagabonds under a period of eight days. As this district produces an abundance of provisions the Portuguese Government could with facility erect a fort in a commanding position of the bay, the name of which would be sufficient to frighten away this class of outlaws. I would, therefore, recommend to your Lordship the propriety of addressing His Most Faithful Majesty's Government on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 370.

Consul Rendall to the Military Commandant of St. Vincent.

Sir,

St. Vincent, September 23, 1854.

TAKING into consideration every circumstance connected with the following information, I feel it my duty to lose no time in communicating the same for your information.

That a vessel chased from the coast of Africa by a steamer and brig, called off Feijan de Argoa in the Island of Brava, where she remained on and off two days, and is supposed to have had communication with the shore in the interim, when not being able to get water, she came to Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, where she remained nine days and took in 100 pipes of water, having a cargo of 550 slaves on board, with which she sailed for Havana.

I further learn that an influential person of the said vessel is at present in this island, waiting a passage for Lisbon, having landed at Terrafal de Monte Trigo.

I also understand that this is the second time the captain has been at Terrafal de Monte Trigo this year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 370.

The Military Commandant of St. Vincent to Consul Rendall.

Illustrious Sir,

St. Vincent, September 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's official letter of this day's date, communicating to me the particulars of a vessel having being chased by a steamer and brig from the coast of Africa, and which had been at Feijan de Agoa, in the Island of Brava, and at Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, where an influential individual landed from the said vessel, and who is at present in this island, waiting a passage for Lisbon.

In answer to this, I have to acquaint your Honour, that under date of the 20th of the present month, appeared before me, in the Municipal Chamber of this island, an individual from the Island of St. Antonio, without passport, declaring to be shipwrecked. As he is unknown in this island, and without any person to become security for him, I made this known to his Excellency the Governor-General of this province. But now, in the presence of your Honour's communi-

cation, which I have just received, I have taken all the measures in my power to prevent this individual, suspected as engaged in the Traffic of Slaves, leaving this island without the orders of his Excellency the Governor-General, to whom I have remitted a copy of your official letter.

God protect, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE PAUL MACHADO.

Major and Military Governor.

No. 371.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Rendall.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, reporting that a slaver, with 550 slaves on board, had touched at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, on her way to the Havana, and had remained there nine days taking in water.

I have in reply to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed to the Military Commandant of St. Vincent, on the 23rd ultimo, respecting this vessel; and I have to inform you that I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to your statement that Terrafal de Monte Trigo is a favourite resort of slavers, and to press upon them the adoption of your recommendation that a fort should be established on the bay.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 372.

Acting Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15, 1855.)

My Lord,

British Consulate, St. Vincent, December 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information, translation of a letter received from the Military Commandant of this island, with the late Mr. Consul Rendall's reply, in reference to the landing of a man from the vessel with slaves which was at St. Antonio, and who appeared here without a passport, as reported to your Lordship in the late Mr. Consul Rendall's despatch of the 28th September last.

I beg to state to your Lordship that the party in question succeeded in obtaining a passport from the authorities of this place, and left on the 21st October for Lisbon, in the Portuguese steamer "Doña Maria Segunda." I understand his name to be Diniz Maria de Castro.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. RENDALL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 372.

The Military Commandant at St. Vincent to Acting Consul Rendall.

(Translation.)

Sir,

St. Vincent, October 20, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor-General of this province received your despatch of the 22nd of last month, respecting a Portuguese individual who landed on the coast of St. Antonio, and arrived at this island on the 21st of the same month without a passport, suspected to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

His Excellency directs me to solicit from you the necessary proof of the fact, that it may be sent to the King's attorney of this island, to enable him to go into an inquiry and proceed against the suspected party.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE PAULO MACHADO.

Major and Military Commandant.

Inclosure 2 in No. 372.

Acting Consul Rendall to the Military Commandant of St. Vincent.

Sir,

St. Vincent, October 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, stating that you had received a letter from the Governor-General, directing you to obtain all the particulars from me in reference to the vessel with slaves which was at St. Antonio, and to the landing of a man at this island, who appeared here with a passport, waiting a passage by steam-boat to Lisbon, in order that the necessary instructions might be given to the King's Advocate to take legal steps therein.

In reply I beg to state that my information is derived from hearsay evidence, spoken, as I believe, by the person in question, and by other individuals, as the common news and talk of the day.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. RENDALL.

SARDINIA.

No. 373.

The Marquis d'Azeglio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 15.)

5, Berkeley Square, le 14 Février, 1855.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté le Roi de Sardaigne, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de son Excellence M. le Comte de Clarendon, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique, les faits suivants.

Le 14 Avril, 1845, le sloop de guerre Anglais "Cygnet," Commandant Henry Layton, opéra la saisie du navire marchand Sarde "Sansone," qui se trouvait en vue de Quita (Golfe de Guinée, Afrique Occidentale), sous la prévention que ce bâtiment fût destiné à faire la Traite des Noirs.

Le Conseil d'Amirauté à Gènes, devant qui furent traduits, conformément aux Traités, l'équipage et les passagers du "Sansone," après avoir longuement et soigneusement instruit cette procédure, a déclaré par deux sentences successives, l'une du 12 Novembre, 1845, et l'autre du 31 Juillet, 1850, qu'il n'y avait pas lieu à poursuivre, que l'accusation loin d'être étayée de preuves suffisantes, manquait de tout fondement, et que les prévenus, l'armateur et le propriétaire du navire, avaient droit de réclamer du Commandant du "Cygnet" une juste indemnité pour les dommages soufferts, aux termes du Traité de 1834, stipulé avec l'Angleterre dans le but de réprimer le Trafic des Esclaves.

Les parties intéressées intentèrent alors le jugement de liquidation pour fixer les sommes à réclamer.

Malgré les efforts des plaidans pour solliciter de ces tribunaux la conclusion du procès, elle a été longuement différée, à ce qu'il paraît, à cause de la lenteur que leurs adversaires ont constamment opposée au progrès de la cause. Le prononcé du jugement est maintenant imminent. Mais comme les deux sentences sur le mérite de la question ont été favorables au propriétaire et à l'armateur du "Sansone," il n'y a plus aucun doute sur le résultat de ce jugement, dont le seul but est de délibérer sur le montant de l'indemnité.

En attendant cette décision, il a paru aux intéressés à Gènes de pouvoir proposer un moyen conciliant de mettre un terme à cette fâcheuse affaire et de se prévaloir d'un antécédent qui a eu lieu dernièrement. Voici en quoi il consiste.

Quelques jours après la capture du "Sansone," le même navire de guerre Anglais "Cygnet" opéra également la saisie d'un autre bâtiment marchand Sarde, le "Sommariva." La procédure relative à cette affaire marcha plus rapidement que celle du "Sansone," le cas étant moins compliqué. Pendant que le jugement de liquidation, toutefois, était en voie de prononciation, on s'entendit de part et d'autre pour arranger l'affaire à l'amiable. Le Gouvernement Britannique envoya un agent à Gènes qui, traitant directement avec l'agent du propriétaire du "Sommariva," parvint bientôt à conclure un arrangement définitif. Cette transaction, qui mit fin d'une manière satisfaisante pour toutes les parties intéressées à une controverse qui durait depuis des années, porte la date du 9 Mars, 1853.

Le cas actuel étant parfaitement analogue à celui du "Sommariva," les représentants du "Sansone" pensent que si le Gouvernement Britannique voulait charger un agent à Gènes de traiter directement avec eux on obtiendrait en toute probabilité le même heureux résultat.

Dans cet état de choses, M. Louis Neicolay et l'Avocat Joseph Prato, en qualité de représentants de tous les intérêts du "Sansone," viennent d'adresser

une pétition au Gouvernement du Roi, demandant qu'il veuille interposer ses bons offices auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique pour l'amener à l'acceptation d'un plan qui promettrait un résultat prompt et satisfaisant. Ces messieurs désireraient d'autant plus d'adopter ce moyen que le procès en question leur a déjà causé des dépenses très considérables, et la capture a coûté la vie à trois personnes, ainsi que la ruine de plusieurs. Or on épargnerait de la sorte, de part et d'autre, les frais ultérieurs d'une cause qui pourrait encore se prolonger pendant longtemps au préjudice de toutes les parties intéressées. Ce projet paraît donc être aussi de l'intérêt du Gouvernement Anglais.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères à Turin ayant attentivement examiné les titres qui accompagnaient la pétition, et s'étant amplement édifié du bon droit des réquérans, a été convaincu de la justice qu'il y aurait à intervenir en leur faveur.

Le Gouvernement du Roi a par conséquent chargé le Soussigné de recommander ce plan à la considération sérieuse et éclairée de son Excellence M. le Comte de Clarendon. Il ne doute pas que le Gouvernement Britannique, toujours animé des sentiments d'équité qui le distinguent, voudra se prêter à une transaction proposée par deux sujets du Roi qui se trouvent placés dans une bien fâcheuse position par le fait du Capitaine du "Cygnet." L'adoption de ce projet paraît d'autant plus acceptable que, le cas du "Sansone" étant tout-à-fait analogue à celui du "Sommariva," on peut en attendre le même résultat prompt et satisfaisant.

Le Soussigné, en venant exécuter les ordres de son Gouvernement, croit inutile d'insister ultérieurement auprès de son Excellence M. Comte de Clarendon pour l'adoption de ces propositions. L'esprit de justice et de conciliation que sa Seigneurie a témoigné en toute occasion au Soussigné lui donne la conviction qu'elle voudra bien accueillir favorablement des ouvertures dont le but est de mettre fin d'une manière conforme aux Traités et aux principes d'équité, aux longues et fâcheuses conséquences éprouvées par des sujets Sardes qui ont été complètement absous par les tribunaux compétents.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé) AZEGLIO.

No. 374.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Marquis d'Azeglio.

Foreign Office, February 19, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 14th instant by the Marquis d'Azeglio, &c., on the subject of the damages claimed from Her Majesty's Government by the parties interested in the Sardinian barque "Sansone," in consequence of the detention of that vessel by Her Majesty's ship "Cygnet," in April 1845, on a charge of being equipped for the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned has referred the Marquis Azeglio's note to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury; and as soon as he shall have received a reply from their Lordships, he will have the honour of communicating further with the Marquis d'Azeglio upon this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 375.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 15, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a note* which I have received from the Marquis d'Azeglio, referring to the case of the Sardinian vessel "Sansone," which was captured on the 14th of April, 1845, by Captain Layton of Her

* No. 373.

Majesty's ship "Cygnet" for having on board a Slave Trade equipment, and which vessel was released by a sentence of the Admiralty Court at Genoa, dated 12th of November, 1845.

M. d'Azeglio states that a sentence will shortly be pronounced in the action for damages brought against Captain Layton, by the master and owners of the "*Sansone*," and that he has been instructed by his Government to propose on behalf of the plaintiffs that Her Majesty's Government should come to a private arrangement with them as to the amount of damages to be paid in this suit.

You will find on reference to the despatches respecting the "*Sansone*," which Mr. Abercromby and Mr. Yeats Brown addressed to Lord Aberdeen, in November and December 1845, that the parties interested in this case are by no means borne out in representing, as it appears they have done, to the Sardinian Government, that the case of the "*Sansone*" is analogous to that of the "*Sommariva*," which was settled through your intervention in February 1853; for you will see that when these two vessels were brought to Genoa for adjudication, Mr. Brown reported to Her Majesty's Government that it was his full impression that the detention of the "*Sommariva*" was not justifiable, whereas it appears from his despatch of the 11th December, 1845, respecting the "*Sansone*," which is referred to in Mr. Abercromby's despatch of the 16th of the same month, that the nature of the cargo, the preparations made for conveying and victualling slaves, the superabundant number of boilers, and the concealed letters addressed to slave-dealers, all which were found on board the "*Sansone*," show clearly that that vessel was liable to condemnation.

These facts were no doubt known to the Sardinian Government at the time, for you will find on referring to Mr. Abercromby's despatch, of the 24th December, 1845, that when Count Solar de la Marguerite, then Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs, received from the War Office at Turin, for transmission to Her Majesty's Government, the citation issued to Captain Layton by the owners and masters of the "*Sansone*," Count Solar informed Mr. Abercromby that he had returned that document to the War Office, and that he had at the same time declined all official interference in support of the action for damages against Captain Layton.

It is probable that this proper and honourable decision on the part of the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs may not have been formally recorded by his Excellency at the time, and that thus the plaintiffs may have succeeded in persuading the Count de Cavour that their claim was a just one, and was as well founded as that of the owners of the "*Sommariva*." And I have therefore to instruct you to communicate to Count Cavour the above circumstances, and to give him a copy of Mr. Abercromby's despatch, of the 24th December, 1845.

You will state to his Excellency that the communication made to Mr. Abercromby by Count Solar de la Marguerite, induced Her Majesty's Government to stop the further legal defence of the law-suit in question, and that if they should be now obliged to resume it after the expiration of more than nine years, they will be unfairly placed in a disadvantageous position.

You will inform Count Cavour that there is no foundation for the statement of the plaintiffs contained in M. d'Azeglio's note, as to the conclusion of the suit having been delayed in consequence of the impediments which their adversaries have constantly thrown in their way; and you will say that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that his Excellency will follow the example of his predecessor, and that he will refuse to afford any further official support to the parties in question.

But as Her Majesty's Government are determined to resort to every proper means of resisting this claim, I have to instruct you to obtain and transmit to this office a copy of the order of the Vice-Admiralty Court at Genoa, dated the 31st of July, 1850, which is referred to by M. d'Azeglio, and which has not yet been communicated to Her Majesty's Government, and you will endeavour to procure such other documents as may be necessary for the information of the Lords of the Treasury, and particularly any evidence proving that the "*Sansone*" had on board an unreasonable number of water-casks or other vessels for holding water, as you are aware that the VIIth Article of the Supplementary Convention of the 22nd of March, 1833, to which Sardinia

acceded, stipulates that "no compensation shall in any case be granted either to the master or to the owner, or to any other person interested in the equipment or lading of a merchant-vessel in which any of the particulars specified in the preceding Article shall be found, even if the tribunals should not pronounce any condemnation in consequence of her detention."

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 376.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Marquis d'Azeglio.

Foreign Office, March 20, 1855.

The Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform the Marquis d'Azeglio, &c., with reference to his note of the 14th ultimo, respecting the claim made by the parties interested in the Sardinian barque "*Sansone*" which was captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Cygnet*" in 1845, that the previous correspondence which passed between Her Majesty's Government and Her Majesty's Legation at Turin respecting this vessel having been examined, it appears thereby that the plaintiffs in this case are not borne out in the statement which they have made as to the circumstances under which the "*Sansone*" was captured, being entirely analogous to those connected with the case of the Sardinian vessel "*Sommariva*."

And the Undersigned begs leave to acquaint the Marquis d'Azeglio that he has instructed Mr. Hudson, Her Majesty's Minister at Turin, to address a representation upon this subject to the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

SPAIN.

No. 377.

Señor Comyn to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, April 3, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Chargé d'Affaires of Her Catholic Majesty, has the honour to inform his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., that according to a communication which he has received from the Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, dated the 6th of March last, the capture of 600 Bozal negroes was effected on the 4th of that month at the landing-place of Las Pruñas, at the mouth of the River Manati, in the jurisdiction of Trinidad.

The Undersigned has also the honour to inclose a translation of a communication addressed to the Marquis de la Pezuela by the Political and Military Lieutenant-Governor of Sagua la Grande, with reference to the complaint made by the British Consul in Cuba, of a landing of negroes in the jurisdiction of Trinidad; in corroboration of which, he alleged the fact that the hull of one of the slavers might be seen at Cayo Verde, which he supposed had effected the landing in Sagua la Grande. Your Excellency will see by that, that the complaint in question, like various others made recently by Mr. Crawford, was without foundation; the hull turning out to be, from the inquiries made with as much zeal as activity by the persons employed under the authorities, that of a vessel laden with salt for New Orleans, which was wrecked on the reefs of Cayo Verde on the 7th day of January last.

These facts, to which the Undersigned takes the liberty of calling the attention of his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, will prove to Her Britannic Majesty's Government that the Government of Her Majesty, maintaining its firm determination to cause international compacts to be scrupulously fulfilled, leaves no means unemployed to effect that object; and the Undersigned flatters himself that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will see a satisfactory proof of such determination in the well-directed and energetic steps taken by the Captain-General the Marquis de la Pezuela for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JUAN S. COMYN.

Inclosure in No. 377.

The Governor of Sagua la Grande to the Marquis de la Pezuela.(Translation.)
Sir,*Political and Military Government of Sagua la Grande,
February 9, 1854.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's letter of the 6th instant, in which, in consequence of the Consul of England having given information to you of the landing of Bozal negroes within this jurisdiction, one case of such landing having been effected, as it is said, by a brig of 270 to 300 tons, whose hull may be seen at Cayo Verde, as stated, you direct me to proceed to draw up an official statement of the same, expressing surprise that it has not been already done. I forthwith proceeded to act accordingly, and as I had not absolutely the most remote idea of the facts denounced, nor even any vague suspicion

that such had occurred, I found no data upon which an inquiry could be instituted. On the contrary, circumstances on which I can rely, known to me as a sub-delegate of the Treasury, convince me that the hull of a brig recently wrecked in Cayo Verde was not employed in the Slave Trade, but had been laden with salt intended for New Orleans, as proved by copies Nos. 1 and 2, which I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency. According to further intelligence in my possession, the said brig was the American "*Rio*," of 179 $\frac{3}{5}$ tons burden, measurement of that country, and was manned by Captain Charles Johnson, first mate, Henry N. Wat Quins; second mate, John Morris; and seamen, Thomas Ellen, Samuel G. Bradbury, Henry Hunter, John A. Hill, and Joseph H. Clareby. She took in her cargo at Islas Turcas, whence she sailed at 2 o'clock p.m., on the 3rd of January, and ran a-ground on the reefs of Cayo Verde on the 7th, the other occurrences mentioned in the accompanying document subsequently taking place. Hereby your Excellency will see that the information is unfounded as to that vessel having been engaged in the Slave Trade. The crew above named, after having remained several days at this point, went on to that city to embark, on account of the American Consul, and as they may not yet have left, it appears to me right to make this known to your Excellency that you may, if you think proper throw a light upon this statement by the help of their depositions, or by any other information which they may supply; because if the case really was as suspected by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, the aforesaid crew is guilty, and if not, they may perhaps have seen the vessel referred to in his information approach the point.

The vague manner in which the denunciation is made, the circumstance that I had not received the slightest notice until then of such matter within my jurisdiction, notwithstanding my zeal in such cases, and the urgent instructions I have issued to my subalterns, that I had not remarked anything in certain persons who appear always inclined to be engaged in this Trade, and some other circumstances, almost convince me that there are no grounds for concluding that these things are true. But as the cunning of the smuggler surpasses the best arrangements of authority, it is possible that they may have deceived my vigilance. It would therefore be highly important that if any details be given in the above-mentioned denunciation which may facilitate the inquiry, they may be communicated to me, so that I may have a safer starting-point than that which I now possess, from which I cannot hope for any result, because there is not an inhabitant, however poor and mean he may be, who does not in this case identify himself with the greedy trader, to hide the crime, and elude the severity of the law. This is what I have at present to communicate to your Excellency.

God preserve, &c.

Documents referred to in the preceding communication.

No. 1.—Fiscal Administration of the Royal Revenues of the Port of Sagua la Grande.

IN reference to the order of the Intendant of the army, which you inclose to me, for compliance therewith, in your communication of the 27th January last, I have to inform you that so soon as this administration received notice from the marine authority of the wreck, in Cayo Verde, of the American brig "*Rio*," Captain Johnson, it gave orders to the local head of the coast-guard to dispatch to that point without a moment's delay the revenue-boat, with a trustworthy carabinier, especially directed to ascertain and give an exact account of what should be disembarked, in accordance with the royal orders of the 20th August, 1804, and of the 16th April, 1816, and to take the steps which he might think requisite for the security of the revenue. But while the Royal department awaited the fulfilment of the orders, and was using every precaution to prevent all malversation, it was tranquillised by ascertaining the fact, that the cargo which was composed entirely of salt, was completely lost. The naval stores which could be saved from the wreck being brought to the harbour, were deposited there with the knowledge of the aforesaid Department, leaving to the captain the option of re-embarking or selling the

same, in accordance with one of the sovereign orders above-mentioned. By this, I conceive that I have fulfilled and satisfied the orders of superior authority, returning the documents which you have transmitted to me.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

BRAULIO PANCORBO MARTINEZ,
Sub-delegate of the Royal Treasury.

Sagua la Grande, February 8, 1854.

No. 2.—*Documents containing a copy of the journal of operations effected by the Carabinier D. Juan de Castro on the leeward coast, on board of the revenue-boat of this harbour, under the orders of the Chief of the same.*

January 9, 1854.

ON the morning of this day, after making the inspection and seeing gangs which are on the point, and hearing that nothing had occurred, we sailed in the direction of Cayo Verde, and on reaching the reef of the said Cayo Verde we saw a vessel wrecked, and there was at the anchorage a sort of hut, which we thought might be the crew of the said vessel, as in fact, it turned out to be the case. I then went to the chambers of Don Manuel Sanchez, the marine magistrate, and on asking him what ship that was, with some other questions, he told me she was an American vessel whose name he did not recollect, but that on the morning of the 7th, and at about 7 o'clock an American captain had presented himself to him, telling him that he had been wrecked upon the reef, and that he wished him to go on board to get the people and stores and provisions on shore, and at the same time he requested of him a permit that he might carry to Sagua, and present himself to the Consul and proper authorities, all of which, he told me, he forthwith did. I asked him if he had saved anything out of the cargo, or if he knew that any other person had so done; to which he replied, that he was aware that nothing had been saved, the whole cargo consisting of salt, and the body of the vessel breaking, whereby the water entered on all sides.

January 10, 1854.

I went in company with the marine magistrate of the aforesaid Cayo Verde, to the position of the lost brig: we found the mate on board, and asked him what was the vessel's name; he replied that she was an American, named "*Rio*," that she had been laden with salt from the Turk Islands, and was bound for New Orleans, but that missing her course in the early morning of the 7th, she was wrecked where we then were. I asked him for what reason he remained on board, to which he replied that the captain left him to guard the rigging and sails, which was all that remained. We forthwith returned to the anchorage which we had quitted that morning, where we anchored with the intention of preventing any boat from approaching the wrecked vessel. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the launch "*Angelita*," Ferrer, master, came from Sagua la Grande to that point, having on board a marine guard and the carabinier, Don Bernard Alberu, who had an order from the Aventajaso, commandant of Sagua la Grande, directing me to take charge of the vessel, which was wrecked on those reefs, and this I did. At 9 o'clock at night the mounted carabinier, Don José de Casé, arrived at Cayo Verde, accompanied by Don José Sagol, who had come from Sierra Morena in a boat belonging to the latter, to this point. I asked them, if they brought any orders or directions; to which they replied, that they had not; which appeared to be the case from their going away the following morning.

(Signed)

JUAN DE CASTRO.

Sagua la Grande, January 14, 1854.

No. 378.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 3, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of last January,* I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, and for communication to the Spanish Government, a copy of a despatch † from Mr. Crawford, &c., inclosing copies of the defence which was set up on behalf of the three British sailors who were on board the slave vessel "*Jasper*," and of the sentence of the Court by which they have been set at liberty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 379.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 4, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, a copy of a despatch ‡ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting, that the Captain-General of that island had superseded the Governors of Trinidad and of Sancti Spiritus, on account of their having connived at the landing of slaves in the districts of their respective Governments, and that his Excellency had appointed to succeed them, officers in whom Mr. Crawford considers reliance can be placed.

I transmit also a copy of a further despatch § from Mr. Crawford, in which he states that since the appointment of the new Governor of Trinidad, 600 newly imported negroes had been captured within his jurisdiction.

And I have to instruct your Lordship to express to the Spanish Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learned these proceedings of the Marquis de la Pezuela for the purpose of putting down the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 380.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th of last January, || and to previous correspondence respecting the thirty-six Yucatan Indians who had been carried off to Cuba and sold as slaves by a man named Anduze, I transmit to your Lordship herewith for your information, copies of a further despatch, ¶ and of its inclosure, from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting that twenty-seven of these Indians have been already sent back to their native country, that three have engaged to serve in Cuba as free labourers, that five have died, and that one has embarked for Spain as a servant.

It also appears from Mr. Crawford's despatch that the proceedings against the guilty parties in the affair are still being carried on in the Cuban tribunals.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 491.

† No. 454.

‡ See Class B, presented 1854, No. 657.

|| Ibid., No. 487.

§ Ibid., No. 660.

¶ Ibid., No. 685.

I also transmit a copy of a note* which Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico has received from the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, by which it appears that the Spanish Government has made no such proposal to the Mexican Government respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba, as that referred to in M. Calderon de la Barca's letter to Mr. Otway of the 23rd of November, 1853.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 381.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 6, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 24th of last December,† inclosing a copy and translation of the note in which Señor Calderon de la Barca endeavoured to throw discredit on the statements which Mr. Crawford, &c., had made to me of landings of slaves which had been effected at the Ensenada de Cortez, the Ensenada del Carmelo, and at San Juan de los Remedios; I have to state to your Lordship, that on the receipt of that despatch I called upon Mr. Crawford to report further upon these cases, and I now transmit copies of a despatch‡ and of its inclosures which I have received from Mr. Crawford in reply.

Your Lordship will communicate to the Spanish Government the contents of Mr. Crawford's despatch, as a proof of the systematic manner in which the Slave Trade was connived at under the late Captain-General of Cuba, and as showing the necessity of upholding and supporting the present Governor the Marquis de la Pezuela.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 382.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. de Comyn.

Foreign Office, April 15, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which M. Comyn, &c. addressed to him on the 3rd instant, informing him that on the 6th ultimo the Cuban authorities succeeded in capturing 600 Bozal negroes, who had been landed within the district of Trinidad; and inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, by the Political and Military Governor of Sagua la Grande, in which, with reference to the wreck of a vessel which is alluded to by Mr. Crawford, &c., in a letter which he addressed on the 12th of last January to the Marquis de la Pezuela, Señor Casariego states that the wreck of that vessel is not the wreck of a slaver, but of a vessel engaged in legitimate traffic, which lately foundered at Cayo Verde.

The Undersigned, in thanking M. Comyn for his communication respecting the capture of the 600 Bozal negroes, begs leave to inform him that he had already heard of this capture from Mr. Crawford, who, the Undersigned can assure M. Comyn, does full justice to the zeal and activity of the present Captain-General of Cuba, and to the determination of his Excellency faithfully to execute the stipulations of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Spain.

But with regard to M. Comyn's representation that Mr. Crawford is in the habit of making unfounded statements to the Captain-General of Cuba as to the landing of African slaves, which charge appears to have reference to the fact that the wreck mentioned by Mr. Crawford in his letter to the Captain-General of the 12th of January, turns out upon investigation to be the wreck of an American vessel laden with salt for New Orleans, the Undersigned begs leave

* Inclosure 2 in No. 252.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 484.

‡ No. 452.

to inclose to M. Comyn a copy of Mr. Crawford's letter respecting the wrecked vessel in question, in order that M. Comyn may see that Mr. Crawford made no denouncement with respect to that wreck, but merely spoke of the wreck as being "supposed" to have been one of two vessels which had lately landed cargoes of slaves at Sagua, and that in the same letter Mr. Crawford spoke of the identity of the wreck with one of those vessels, as being a "conjecture."

The Undersigned, so far from thinking that this case affords evidence that Mr. Crawford is in the habit of making unfounded denouncements to the Captain-General of Cuba, is of opinion that the very guarded manner in which Mr. Crawford alludes to this wreck, with respect to which he had no certain nor positive information, may be taken as proof that he is not in the habit of denouncing disembarkations of slaves to the Cuban authorities until he has satisfied himself that he has good and sufficient grounds for making those statements.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 383.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 20, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of a note which I have received from M. de Comyn, &c., and of the answer* which I have returned to it, respecting the recent capture made by the Cuban authorities of 600 Bozal negroes, and respecting a charge brought by M. de Comyn against Mr. Crawford, that he is in the habit of making unfounded statements to the Captain-General of Cuba as to the landing of African slaves.

I also inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch† which I have addressed to Mr. Crawford on transmitting to him copies of my correspondence with M. de Comyn.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 384.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 21.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, April 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship by this messenger translation of a most important document relating to slavery in the Island of Cuba, which was published in the "Gazette" of this morning.

The chief points are the following:—

A determination, publicly expressed, to put down the Slave Trade, and to keep faith with Great Britain.

An endeavour to force the whole slave population of the island into works of agriculture, establishing high taxes on those retained for household purposes.

The organization of a system of colonization for Spaniards, Yucatanese, and Chinese, defining their obligations and rights.

And, finally, the compulsory registering of all the slaves in the island at this moment, so that any negro (excepting those subsequently born) who is hereafter unregistered, and who does not carry on him a copy of the register, will be considered as unduly introduced, and declared *ipso facto* free.

Your Lordship will see at once two things: the great advantage of such a

* Nos. 377 and 382.

† No. 456.

measure if properly carried out, and the great difficulty to which it will give rise at the moment of registering with regard to negroes who will be claimed as legal property, and who yet have been fraudulently introduced since the conclusion of Treaties with Spain.

Inclosure in No. 384.

Exposition to Her Majesty.

(Translation.)

Señora,

ONE of the most urgent necessities which at present presses upon the Island of Cuba is the scarcity of labourers; agriculture is already affected by it; its effects begin to be noticed in commercial transactions; and if it be not opportunely remedied, the rich treasures which that fertile island contains will soon be diminished, if not exhausted. The Government have carefully studied the causes of the evil, and in order to remove them they offer to your Majesty a system of measures which they consider efficacious, if, as is to be expected, there be on the part of the local authorities zeal and perseverance in carrying them into execution.

It is not hidden from the high penetration of your Majesty, that the origin of the scarcity which is deplored, lies partly in the existence and necessity of slavery, and partly in the Treaties in force for the suppression of the Slave Trade. The Antilles seem condemned by Providence not to give proofs of their fertility unless with the aid of that institution, and at the cost of the race upon whom it weighs. There results hence for the island of Cuba a social and economical situation, which although exceptional and anomalous, it is necessary to maintain with all its inconveniences, because there would arise from the design of regulating it by the type of European nations greater detriments for the State, and even for the very race disinherited of civil liberty.

From the necessity of maintaining slavery in those regions was naturally inferred the advantage of permitting in certain cases the introduction of new slaves; but as the international Treaties and the Spanish laws prohibit and punish it with rigour, this efficient means of preservation has been wanting to slavery, while the development and encouragement of agriculture have rendered it every day more necessary. Whatever may be nevertheless the qualification which these Treaties merit, the Government ought to fulfil them as the honour and dignity of the nation require, considering that though they be in part the cause of the injury which is lamented at this moment, it is not in the power of the Government to remove it, nor would it be morally possible to abolish slavery.

Leaving out of view therefore, as irremediable, these two primary and fundamental causes of the actual scarcity, the Government have maturely examined the immediate causes and believe they have found them:

1. In the practice of dedicating to domestic service and other occupations, in which the labour of whites and free men might be employed, the slaves which are wanting to agriculture and the employments, in which the labour of natives and Europeans cannot compete with that of the Africans.

2. In the proprietors not having taken care, so much as they ought to have done, of the reproduction of the slave race, with the hope that the clandestine introduction of Bozal negroes would supply their neglect.

3. In the scarcity of white labourers and artizans capable of dedicating themselves to a multitude of mechanical offices, for which the negroes are unnecessary.

4. In the right of property over the legitimate slaves not possessing the indispensable guarantees and securities, in consequence of the questions which the understanding and application of the Treaties in force for the suppression of the Slave Trade are daily raising with a powerful nation.

The slaves who now exist in the Island of Cuba would suffice for all the wants of agriculture, notwithstanding the losses which they have experienced by recent diseases, if a considerable number of them had not been destined in towns to services which free labourers could perform as well or better. This circumstance makes evident the advantage of removing the slave population from

the cities and towns, and dedicating it in the country to the occupations of agriculture. In order to effect this, your Majesty decreed, in 1844, the imposition of a capitation tax upon the slaves destined for domestic service; but this measure has not produced the desired effect; first, because all the slaves who dedicate themselves to occupations in which free men might be employed being excluded from the tax, its influence is limited to a very reduced number of persons, and precisely to those who, from the nature of their occupations, it must be most difficult to attract towards agriculture; and secondly, because the capitation not exceeding a dollar, or a little more for each person, it has not been a sufficient stimulus for the Cubans to abandon the inveterate custom of having themselves served by slaves.

In order to attain the desired end, therefore, it will be necessary to extend the tax to all the slaves who are not habitually employed in agriculture; that is, to those who have not their permanent residence in the estates or rural establishments, and to increase the said tax gradually in proportion to the wealth of each proprietor, adopting, as the measure thereof, the number of slaves whom he has in his service, and fixing, nevertheless, a prudent limit to the proportional increase, in order not to confound the caprices of luxury with the true wants of industry.

Your Majesty may still offer another more efficacious stimulant to the proprietors of slaves. There is now paid on the sale of them a duty of alcabala, which consists of 6 per cent. of the stipulated price. Exempt from this duty the slaves who are sold or transferred for service in the agricultural estates or establishments, and exact double from those who, having their residences in the said establishments, may be transferred for service in the towns, and no industry will obtain with more abundance and advantage than agriculture the labour necessary for its preservation and encouragement. If these measures shall not suffice to attract the slave population towards the fields, it would be difficult to adopt other indirect means which should promise better results. But even though agriculture and industry should go on increasing and developing themselves in the Island of Cuba in the same proportion as hitherto, the Government believe, nevertheless, that the slaves now existing would suffice for all the services in which they cannot be readily replaced by free labourers, if their reproduction shall be cared for and favoured.

The measures which your Majesty may adopt with such an object are also indirect, and of no immediate result, but will doubtless succeed. They consist in encouraging the proprietors to promote marriages among the slaves, and so to benefit themselves by the reproduction of this indispensable race. In order to effect this, the entire produce of the capitation tax before mentioned ought to be destined to the adjudication of three annual premiums: one in favour of the proprietor whose slaves may have had the greatest number of legitimate or legitimated children; another in favour of him who possesses the greatest number of female slaves in proportion to the men; and another for him who may take most care, and with the best result, of the health and preservation of his slaves. Female slaves should also be exempted from the capitation tax, as well their children under 12 years of age, and married slaves who have a certain number of children.

It would also be proper to exempt from all alcabala the compulsory sales of slaves which take place on account of marriages, and also the sales of the sons of slaves when they are removed for the first time from the control of the owner in whose possession they were born.

With such encouragements, and the conviction that in future there will be no more clandestine introductions of Bozal negroes, since the fabulous interest which maintains them will at least be diminished, not only will the farmers and manufacturers take greater care of the reproduction of their slaves, but capital will be devoted especially to that object, as happens in other countries where the slave population increases daily without the aliment of the fraudulent importation of Africans.

But in spite of what has been previously said, the Government are not ignorant that the scarcity of free labourers and artisans, or rather the want of a numerous class from whence they may be drawn, must have contributed in great measure to all mechanic services being performed by slaves. Thus it is, that in order to facilitate the effect of the measures which have for object to promote within the towns the replacement of slave labourers by free ones, and in order

to remedy immediately, as far as possible, the actual scarcity of labour, it is indispensable to authorize the immigration of white colonists, Spanish or foreign, with whose assistance the free and labouring class which is wanting may be formed in Cuba.

The experiments made up to this time show that this remedy will be efficacious; but in order to provide for its due development, it is indispensable to determine the conditions on which the introduction of colonists is to be permitted, and to fix the relations between them and their masters with regard to the public interest and the powers of the Government.

The Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, zealous for your Majesty's service, and believing the want of labour to be most urgent, published an ordinance authorizing for two years the free importation of colonists from Spain, China, or Yucatan, and making regulations for that purpose, as also for determining the reciprocal rights of the colonists and of their masters. But the Government, considering the importance and gravity of the subject, have judged it indispensable, in revising those dispositions, to submit them in the form of a Decree to your Majesty's sanction. Its principal objects are: to facilitate the introduction of colonists in order that competition may increase the supply, and thus lower the price of labour; to prevent the colonists from being imposed upon by avaricious speculators; to empower the Government to impose special conditions with the same object on the importers, according to the nationality, number, and circumstances of the colonists to be introduced in each expedition; to give facilities within the limits of the law for fixing the particular conditions of the contracts with the colonists, in order that these contracts may be so drawn up as not to give rise, by ambiguity or obscurity, to questions of difficult solution; to establish a protectorate confided to the political authority which may decide, *ex æquo et bono*, all the questions that may be raised between the colonists and the masters, and may be susceptible of this proceeding; to determine the most essential civil rights of the colonists and of their families, so that these rights may be respected in the contracts; to empower the colonists and their masters to rescind those contracts at fixed periods, either on account of marriage or by previous compensation, in order that the condition of the colonists may not degenerate into slavery in some cases, or may not be worse in others than that of the slaves themselves; to enact measures protective of the health and life of the colonists, in order to prevent the avarice of any master from putting the one or the other in danger; to grant a disciplinary jurisdiction to the same masters for the correction of such slight offences as may not be cognizable by the tribunals. In all these dispositions, nevertheless, the Government have carefully abstained from opposing the smallest obstacle to the free agreements of individuals; and if they have fixed between the colonists and their masters some reciprocal obligations and rights independent of the contracts, these have not gone beyond what concerns morality, religion, or the State.

In order, finally, to ensure all the rights acquired by the owners of slaves, and to put a stop to the illegitimate hopes which have so much contributed to the diminution of the slave race, it is indispensable to put an end, by efficacious measures, to the eternal question of the Slave Trade. The Government are resolved to cause the solemn Treaties which they stipulated with England to be fulfilled, but they will not propose to your Majesty any measure which may relax in the slightest the severity of discipline which is the guarantee and forced consequence of slavery. Although the fear of measures of this kind being adopted in contravention of the Penal Law of 1845, which prohibits investigations to be made within the estates in order to ascertain the origin of the slaves existing in them, may have the good effect of keeping back many from the illicit commerce of Bozal negroes, nevertheless it has the evil effect of creating among the legitimate proprietors a feeling of insecurity and disquietude. In order to prevent at once such fears and dangers, it is requisite to stop the complaints and demands of the Government of Great Britain, which, in the use of the right given to it by Treaties, watches strictly over their fulfilment, and this will not be attained without radically extinguishing the Slave Trade.

The means which the Government propose to your Majesty for effecting this, have, in their opinion, all the advantages that can be desired, since their efficacy being unquestionable, and their execution most easy, they censure and guarantee all the existing rights relative to slavery. By opening in each capital

or lieutenancy of Government a register, where all the slaves who now exist in the island may be inscribed and filiated; by closing definitively this register for any new inscription as soon as the necessary time has arrived, in order that no proprietor may fail voluntarily to inscribe his slaves; and by considering manumitted and free all men of colour who in future do not appear inscribed and filiated, making, at the same time, exceptions in favour of infants and of fugitive and absent slaves during the time for the inscription, and of those whose condition is disputed before the tribunals, there will not be in future more slaves than those now in the island and their descendants; there will be an exterior, visible, and unquestionable mark to distinguish them from the free men; and if some Bozal negroes should still be clandestinely introduced, it would be impossible to make use of them as slaves without exposure to the serious risk of losing them the first time they might be met with without having the proof of their inscription in the civil register. This danger will necessarily remove the temptation of profit, which has hitherto maintained that illicit Traffic in spite of persecution.

The negroes fraudulently introduced are worth now as much as legitimate slaves, for as soon as they are disembarked and divided amongst the estates, neither the one nor the other can be the object of legal search, because it is always easy to frustrate any investigation respecting them. But when the register is once established and closed, the tenure of the real slaves will be as secure, as will be ephemeral and uncertain that which it is sought to exercise over those which are not so. This will at least produce a very considerable difference between the value of the respective classes; and the consequence of all this will be, that the slave-traders, not finding the risk they run sufficiently compensated by the profit they obtain, will abandon for ever so unworthy a Traffic.

The obligation which is imposed on the owners, of causing to be noted in the register all the acts and contracts which affect the condition of the slaves, or the rights which are exercised over them, will also contribute, in a great degree, to secure the property over them, and to prevent the frauds which are committed in the transactions concerning them. When the fulfilment of this obligation shall be secured by a declaration that the acts and contracts which are not so registered shall have no effect in regard to third parties, who may not have intervened in the same, no one will be able to alienate the slaves of another, or to sell as free from all lien, the partially-redeemed slaves (*coartados*), or to commit any other fraud of the same kind.

But the inscriptions and annotations made in the registers being of such consequence, it is indispensable to secure, by all possible means, the responsibility of the functionaries who are to have the charge of them, and the exactness, clearness, and legitimacy of the statements. With this object, some rules of organization and procedure are submitted to your Majesty, which will require to be completed by such regulations as the first authority of the island may adopt.

These, Madam, are the fundamental principles of the three projects of Decrees which the President of your Council of Ministers has the honour of submitting to your Royal approbation. If your Majesty deigns to approve them, this will bestow upon your people of the Antilles some improvements and reforms of great importance for their preservation, prosperity, and encouragement.

Madam, at the Royal Feet of your Majesty,

(Signed)

THE COUNT OF SAN LUIS.

Madrid, March 22, 1854.

ROYAL DECREES.

Having considered the Report of my President of the Council of Ministers, and in accordance with the opinion of the same Council, I hereby decree the following:

ART. I. All the slaves resident in the Island of Cuba who have not their permanent domicile in the agricultural estates or establishments shall, with certain exceptions, pay a capitation tax.

II. The owners of slaves subject to capitation shall pay annually, instead of the tax established by the Royal Order of the 29th of July, 1844, the following: for the first slave 2 dollars; for the second, 3 dollars; for the third, 4 dollars; and so on for each additional slave, 1 dollar more. The holder of 15 slaves, after paying the amount corresponding to that number, according to the preceding paragraph, shall pay 8 dollars only for each slave that he may have beyond 15.

III. No capitation tax shall be exacted for female slaves, nor for their children under 12 years of age.

IV. Married slaves, while they live with their wives, and have living children by them, shall only pay 2 dollars annually, whatever be the number of slaves that the owner may have, and shall not be included in the assessment for the other slaves belonging to the same owner. If the number of the children amounts to 4 above 12 years of age, the slave their father shall be exempt from all capitation, even though he may be a widower.

V. The capitation tax shall be exacted from the proprietors in quarterly payments, and a quarter of a year in advance, the first quarter to be payable at the expiration of the first term when the similar tax suppressed by the present Decree was to become due.

VI. The produce of this tax shall be paid at once into my Royal Treasury, and shall be invested in three equal premiums, which shall be adjudicated annually: one to the proprietor of more than 50 slaves, who may have had proportionally during the year the greatest number of legitimate or legitimized children: a second to the proprietor who, possessing a greater number of slaves than the other competitors, may have had proportionally fewer losses by death during the same period: and a third to the proprietor who, possessing also a greater number of male slaves than the other competitors, may present in equal proportion a greater number of female slaves belonging to him.

VII. These premiums shall be adjudicated on the 19th November of each year, by a Junta presided over by the Governor Captain-General, and which shall be composed of the Regent of the Audiencia, of the President of the Tribunal of Commerce of Havana, of two proprietors elected by the Corporation of the same capital, and of two merchants selected by the said Tribunal of Commerce from persons not belonging thereto.

VIII. The Captain-General of the island, making use of the powers which belong to him as Civil Governor and Superintendent of Finance in Commission, shall make subject to my Royal approbation, the proper arrangements for the collection, assessment, and punctual levying of this tax.

IX. The Junta de Fomento shall transmit to the Political Secretary all the information and documents which it may have, relating to the suppressed capitation, and shall deliver over to my Royal Treasury the produce of the same which may not have been paid over on the publication of the present Decree in the Island of Cuba.

X. No alcabala shall be paid for the slaves who, after the said publication, may be sold or transferred, in order to serve or reside in agricultural estates or establishments, the proprietor who may acquire them with that object always making it known at the office charged with the collection of that tax.

XI. The Captain-General of the island shall make the proper arrangements for recording the permanent residence of the slaves transferred under the exemption from alcabala to agricultural estates and establishments, in order that the said slaves may never change their domicile to towns without the owners first paying the said duty.

XII. Double alcabala shall be paid for slaves who, having their residence in agricultural estates or establishments, may be transferred to serve or reside in the towns.

XIII. Any proprietor committing fraud for the purpose of eluding the payment of alcabala, in cases in which he is not exempt from it according to this Decree, shall pay double, without prejudice to the penal or civil responsibility which he may incur by the same act.

XIV. Only half the alcabala shall be exacted for the transfer of slaves under 14 years of age.

XV. No alcabala shall be exacted—

1. For sales of slaves which may take place on account of marriages under Article XXX of the Regulations of the year 1842, provided the marriage shall be proved.

2. For the legitimate and legitimized children of slaves who may be born after the publication of this Decree in the island, when they leave for the first time the ownership under which they were born.

Given at the Palace, March 22, 1854.

Signed by the Royal hand.

The President of the Council of Ministers.

(Signed) LUIS JOSE SARTORIUS.

Having considered the Report of the President of my Council of Ministers, and, in accordance with the opinion of the same Council, I hereby approve the following Regulations for the importation and management of colonists in the Island of Cuba.

CHAPTER I.

Of the Importation of Colonists.

ART. I. Private persons, who wish to introduce on their account into the Island of Cuba, Spanish, Chinese, or Yucatan colonists, shall be able to do so from this day, and for the space of two years, subjecting themselves to the conditions established in these Regulations.

II. The importer of the said colonists must previously obtain permission from the Government, and must, for that purpose, present a certificate or document, showing that the vessel in which they are to be conveyed is fit for the voyage. If the vessel should be in a foreign port, this certificate or document shall be issued by the Spanish Consul there, and if in a Spanish port by the proper naval authority.

III. Neither of the said permissions shall be conceded unless the person in whose favour it is issued obliges himself to import the number of women which the Government may determine, on taking into consideration the number of the men who are to be imported in each expedition, their nationality, and other circumstances. No tonnage duties shall be paid by the importers for women.

IV. The Government, on conceding the permission of which the previous Articles treat, may exact from the importers any other conditions which it may think fit with regard to the number, nationality, and other circumstances of the colonists who are to be imported.

V. The contracts between the importers and the colonists shall be written in the language of the latter, and shall be *viséd* by Her Majesty's Consul if made abroad, or by the Governor of the province if made in Spanish territory.

VI. These contracts must set forth the following particulars:

1. The age, sex, and place of birth of the colonist.
2. The time for which his contract is to be in force.
3. The wages, and the kind, quantity, and quality of the food and clothing which he is to receive.
4. The obligation to afford him medical assistance during illness.
5. Whether the wages are to be stopped when the colonist falls ill from any cause not connected with his work, or independent of the will of the master.
6. The number of hours during which the colonist obliges himself to work each day, it being declared whether the master is to have the power of increasing that number on some days, provided this increase shall be compensated by a proportionate diminution on other days.
7. The obligation of the colonist to indemnify the master for the hours of labour lost to him by the colonist's fault.
8. The obligation of the same colonist to subject himself to the discipline of the estate, workshop, or establishment in which he may have to labour.
9. A clause drawn up in these terms: "I, N. N., assent to the rate of wages above stipulated, although I know that what the free labourers and slaves

of the Island of Cuba get is much greater, because I consider this difference to be compensated by the other advantages which my Master has to afford to me, as stated in this contract."

10. The signature of the colonist, if he can write, and that of the contractor.

VII. The colonist shall receive, and keep in his possession, a copy of the contract signed by the contractor.

VIII. If the colonists should be Spaniards and under age, they shall not be permitted to contract with the importers without the consent of their parents or guardians. If they should be foreigners and under fourteen years of age, the person on whom they depend must be a party to the contract.

IX. The importers of colonists shall not embark in any vessel more than one person for each ton of measurement on a voyage from the ports of the Peninsula; one person for each ton and a half on voyages made from the ports of China; and in the like proportion for the shorter voyage from Yucatan.

X. The importers shall also be bound:

1. To provide the vessels with water and wholesome food fully sufficient for the number of persons conveyed, and for the length of the voyage.

2. To adopt the necessary precautions in order to maintain in the said vessels the cleanliness and ventilation indispensable for the health of the passengers.

3. To carry a physician and medicine-chest on board when the number of persons embarked is above a hundred.

4. To subject themselves, on their arrival at any port of Cuba, to the sanatory and police regulations in force there.

XI. In order to insure the observance of these regulations the colonists must only be imported at the port of Havana, except in case of shipwreck or other inevitable accident, which may render the arrival and landing at some other port a matter of necessity.

XII. Within twenty-four hours after the arrival of the vessel, or after its admission to free pratique, the importer shall present a list of the colonists embarked by him, accompanied by their contracts, and by a return showing the number of those who may have died during the passage and the causes of their deaths. The Governor Captain-General, after seeing these documents, and after taking all the steps which he may deem necessary to prevent fraud, will permit the disembarkation.

XIII. The importers of colonists may transfer them to other employers, or to planters or individuals, on such terms as they may think fit, the latter always obliging themselves to fulfil the contracts entered into with the said colonists and to conform to these regulations. The persons receiving such transfers of colonists may reassign them to other parties on the same conditions, and if on a transfer of colonists the terms of the original contract should be altered without the consent of the colonists, such transfer shall be null and void.

XIV. Both the importers and receivers of colonists shall give an account to the Government of the number of the latter transferred or received within twenty-four hours after the conclusion of the contract, stating the number, sex, and age of said colonists, the vessel in which they arrived, the conditions of the contract made with them, the nature of the labour in which they are to be employed, and the place where they are going to reside.

The Government will then deliver to the receiver the contracts received from the importer relative to the ceded colonists, after entering their contents in the books which shall be kept for that purpose in the office of the Political Secretary.

XV. The residence of the colonists may not be transferred from one part of the island to another without a previous intimation to the Government.

CHAPTER 2.

Of the Reciprocal Obligations and Rights of the Colonists and their Masters.

XVI. The Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba shall be the official protector of the colonists, and shall execute this trust in the districts

through his delegates, the respective Governors or Lieutenant-Governors, who in their turn shall be assisted therein, and without necessity of previous delegation, by the District Captains. These functionaries shall proceed in every case under the direction and orders of the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors.

XVII. In legal matters and when the masters of the colonists do not appear for them, the Syndics of the Corporations or their substitutes in the Municipal Juntas, shall be the defenders of the colonists in the inferior Courts, and in the superior Courts Her Majesty's Fiscal Officers.

XVIII. The delegated protectors shall attend to the proper treatment of the colonists and the fulfilment of their contracts; they shall propose to the official protector the measures which they consider requisite for their welfare and encouragement; and shall settle equitably and without form of law the questions which may arise between the colonists and their masters.

If these questions should involve any point of law, the protector shall decide them summarily, taking *vidæ roce* evidence, and hearing the opinion of an assessor.

If the subject should be of greater legal importance, it shall be decided by the proper authority and according to the established forms of law.

XIX. It is understood that the colonists in signing or accepting their contracts with the importers, renounce the exercise of all civil rights which may be incompatible with the fulfilment of the obligations which they incur, unless some right is treated of which is expressly declared by these regulations.

XX. The colonists may contract marriage with the consent of their masters.

If a colonist who is of age should wish to marry, and his master should oppose it, he may redeem himself from his master under the conditions prescribed in Article XXVIII, or he may seek another master who may receive him with the same conditions.

XXI. The colonists shall exercise over their children all the rights of paternal power, and over their wives all the rights of marital power, in as far as those rights are compatible with the legal condition of the said children and wives.

XXII. The children of the colonists shall follow the condition of their mothers all the time that the contract of the latter lasts if born during the same; but on completing eighteen years of age they shall be entirely free, although their mothers should continue under contract.

The children under age whom the women have at the time of hiring shall follow the condition which the women may stipulate with the contractors. If nothing should be stipulated they shall be entirely free, but they shall have a right to be fed, lodged, and clothed, by the masters of their mothers, under the conditions established for those under twelve years old.

XXIII. The children of the colonists born under the power of the masters of their mothers shall have the same right while they follow the condition of the latter, but with the obligation to render in the meantime to the said masters the services of which they are capable according to their age.

XXIV. The married colonists may not be transferred to any person who does not at the same time take both husband and wife and their children, under twelve years of age. The masters may not oblige the husbands to live habitually separated from their wives, nor the latter from their children under twelve years of age.

XXV. The colonists may acquire property, and dispose of what may belong to them by valid title, provided the contracts which they may make do not involve any express or tacit condition, the fulfilment of which may be incompatible with their contracts with the masters.

XXVI. The colonists may also take legal proceedings against their masters, being represented in the manner prescribed in Article XVII, and against other persons being represented by their own masters, if the latter should be willing to undertake their defence.

If the master should decline to do so, or if in a suit between him and a third party the master's interest should be opposed to that of his colonists, the latter must be represented by the Syndic in the inferior Courts, and by Her Majesty's Fiscal in the superior.

XXVII. The colonists who may have made contracts when under twenty years of age, shall have the right of rescinding them when they attain twenty-five years of age. Those who may have made contracts when above twenty years old, shall have the same right after six years' contract. The masters shall likewise have the power to rescind them at the same periods at which the colonists have this right. The colonist shall in no case be able to make use of the right recognized in this Article unless he indemnifies his master, either by labour or in some other mode, for what he may owe him.

XXVIII. Every colonist shall be able to redeem himself at any time from the power of his master, provided he pays him in cash:

1. The amount which he may have paid for his acquisition.

2. That which the same colonist may owe him as compensation for labour or on any other account.

3. The increased value which, in the judgment of men of skill, the services of the colonist may have acquired since he entered the master's employment.

4. The amount of the loss which the master may incur from the difficulty of replacing the colonist by another.

The colonist shall not be able to make use of this right in time of "zaffra," or during any other of the pressing employments permitted on holidays.

XXIX. If any master shall treat a colonist harshly, or shall fail to fulfil his engagements towards him, the colonist may apply to the delegated protector, and if the latter on hearing both parties should be convinced of the justice of the complaint, he will allow the contract to be annulled.

This annulment may be granted without compensation to the master for what he may have given for the acquisition of the colonist, and without barring any civil or criminal action on the part of either party.

XXX. In the days and hours of rest the colonists may work on their own account within the establishment or estate where they reside; and if they should wish to work out of it, they must previously obtain the permission of the master.

In the same days and hours they may also indulge in such harmless amusements as may not disturb the discipline of the establishment or estate.

XXXI. The colonists shall freely dispose of the produce of their property and of their work done in the days and hours of rest, but they shall not be allowed to establish any retail trade against the will of their master.

XXXII. Whenever the colonist wishes to sell his furniture or moveables, he shall inform his master, who shall be preferred *pro tanto* to any other purchaser.

XXXIII. When the master concedes to his colonist any lot of land for cultivation during the days and hours of rest, the colonist shall acquire the entire produce unless his master may have stipulated otherwise with him.

XXXIV. The colonists shall not be able to leave the estate or establishment in which they serve without the written permission of their master or his delegate, and any colonists found unprovided with such a permit shall be apprehended by the authorities, and taken home at the master's expense.

XXXV. When it may have been stipulated in the contracts that the colonists shall have any particular kind of food, or clothes of a particular make or sort, and if circumstances should prevent the master from providing the same, the kind, quality, or make of either may be altered, but not the quantity.

If the colonists should not be content with this change they shall apply to their protector, who will settle the matter fairly between the parties, with due regard to the essential right of the colonists.

XXXVI. Whatever stipulations may have been made in the contracts as to medical assistants for the colonists, it shall comprise, not only the attendance of the practitioner, but also such medicines and food as the physicians may prescribe during illness and convalescence.

XXXVII. The colonists shall work for their masters, on every day that is not a holiday, during the number of hours agreed upon in the contract.

It is understood that days which are not holidays, for the purposes of this Article, are all those on which the precept of the church does not prohibit

labour, and those which, notwithstanding the festival celebrated thereon, shall be authorized by the ecclesiastical authority as working days.

XXXVIII. Notwithstanding any stipulation to the contrary, the masters shall have no right to exact from their colonists more than twelve hours daily labour on an average.

XXXIX. If a contract shall contain a stipulation as to the right of the master to arrange in the manner most advantageous for his interests the hours of labour agreed upon with the colonist, as prescribed in No. 6 of Article VI, that right shall be understood as limited, so that the colonist can never be obliged to work more than fifteen hours in one day, and so that he shall always have at least six consecutive hours of rest by night or by day.

If the said right should not have been stipulated in the contract, the master shall not have power to exact from the colonist more hours of work in each day than those agreed upon.

XL. The colonist must render to his master all lawful services that he may require, unless it shall have been agreed in the contract that the colonist is to be employed exclusively in certain labours.

In such case the colonist may resist being employed in labours different from those stipulated.

The master may let out to a third person the services of his colonist, for employment in such work as is stipulated in the contract, and to which no condition of the contract is opposed.

XLI. When the colonist is ill or convalescent, he shall not be obliged to work until the medical man declares that he may do so without danger to his health.

XLII. The masters shall pay their colonists the stipulated wages in the form and manner agreed upon in the contract.

XLIII. The colonists shall receive the whole of their wages while they are ill or convalescent from illness contracted in consequence of labour, or from any cause dependent on the will of the master. If the illness should proceed from other causes, the colonist will not have the same right unless it may have been stipulated in the contract.

XLIV. The colonist who, according to his contract, is entitled to receive his wages during illness arising from whatever cause, shall have no right to demand his wages if his illness arises from any wilful act of his own.

XLV. For all the purposes of the two previous Articles and of Article XXXVI, the diseases of the colonists shall be reported upon by the medical men of the estate or establishment in which the colonists are employed, and in default of them, by two physicians named by the master.

If the colonist should demur to their opinion, he may apply to the delegated protector, in order that, by his direction, the colonist may be re-examined by two practitioners: one to be named by him, and another by the master, by whose decision both parties shall abide without further appeal. If the physicians named by the master and the colonist disagree, the delegated protector shall name a third, whose decision shall be final.

XLVI. The colonists shall compensate their masters for the days and hours during which they may have neglected to work through their own fault, and for that purpose their engagement shall be extended for the necessary time. The colonist shall not receive any wages for the days of labour lost by his fault, unless the contrary be expressly stipulated in the contract.

The regulations of this Article shall hold good without barring the other penalties which the colonist may incur by the offence in question.

XLVII. In fulfilment of the regulations contained in the first paragraph of the previous Article, the owners or superintendents of the estates or establishments in which the colonists work shall keep books containing an account of the daily labour of the colonists, and of the payments made to them, so that the account of what is owed by or due to any one, may be made out at any time, and in the former case it may be known for what period the respective contracts ought to be prolonged.

XLVIII. At the end of each month the account corresponding to the labour and payment of each colonist shall be closed, and he shall be informed of the result, in order that if he have any remark to make he may do so at

once, or may apply to the protector if he should not concur in the master's statement of the account.

XLIX. The clause which, with reference to Article VI, paragraph 8, every contract ought to contain, as to the colonist subjecting himself to the discipline of the estate or establishment in which he has to work, and any other stipulation which obliges him to obey his master's orders, shall be always understood with the proviso that the rules or orders proscribed to the colonist shall not be contrary to other conditions of the same contract, nor to the tenor of these regulations.

L. When any colonist deserts from the estate or establishment in which he is serving, the master shall inform the local authority, in order that the necessary steps may be taken for his pursuit.

The master shall pay at once the expenses occasioned by his capture and restitution, but shall have a right to indemnify himself for them by deducting from the fugitive colonist half the wages due to him.

LI. If a master should have in his service non-Catholic colonists, he shall provide for their instruction in the doctrines and morality of the true religion, but without employing other means for this purpose than persuasion and conviction; and if any one shall express a wish to conform to the Catholic faith, the master shall inform the parish priest.

LII. When a colonist shall suffer in his person or interests a wrong or injury not amounting to a crime, from a free man, or from a colonist of another ownership, the master shall take cognizance of the fact, and if he think the complaint just, shall demand from the offender or his master, by friendly or extra-judicial means, the reparation due; and if these means be not sufficient, he shall seek redress before the competent authority, or state the fact to the Syndic, in order that he may do so. If the complaint of the colonist should be thought unfounded, he shall be informed accordingly, and advised to abandon his complaint; but if the colonist should refuse to do so, he may apply to the Syndic to make the proper claim. When the complaint is directed against another colonist belonging to the same master, the latter, or his delegate, shall decide the question in the manner that he thinks just. Either of the parties may appeal against this decision to the protector or his delegate, who shall take cognizance of the matter in the form prescribed in Article XVIII.

LIII. The importers of colonists, and the masters who may fail to comply with any of the obligations or formalities prescribed in this and the previous chapter, shall incur a fine proportionate to the gravity of the case, which shall be imposed summarily without prejudice to the penal or civil responsibility to which they may be subject, and which the authority will have to exact from them in the proper form.

LIV. The colonists shall not be entitled to claim, at any time, from their master, the Government, or the importers, the payment of the expenses of their return voyage to their country, unless their contracts contain an express stipulation to that effect.

LV. On the expiration of the contract, the colonists shall have all the rights that belong to them respectively, according to their origin as Spaniards or foreigners, without any difference between them and those who may never have been colonists.

CHAPTER 3.

Of the Disciplinary Jurisdiction of the Masters.

LVI. The masters shall exercise a disciplinary jurisdiction over their colonists, and in virtue of it shall be able to impose the following punishments:

1. Confinement from one to ten days.

2. Stoppage of wages during that time. The first of these punishments may be inflicted without the second, but the latter may never be applied without the former.

LVII. Whenever the master inflicts on his colonists either of the penalties mentioned in the previous Article, he shall give information within the next twenty-four hours to the proper protector, in order that he may investigate, if

he think proper, the offence committed, and may alter the sentence of the master if it should appear unjust.

Any master omitting to give the said notice within the time specified shall be subject to a summary fine of 25 to 100 dollars.

LVIII. The colonists may, in every case, complain to the protector of any wrong done them by their masters, whether by punishing them without cause, by imposing penalties which are not within their competence, or by otherwise improperly treating them.

If the protector find the master guilty of any offence, he shall denounce him to the proper tribunal; and if the offence shall be only a slight one, he shall himself impose a fine not exceeding 100 dollars.

LIX. In order to ensure the fulfilment of the regulations of the two preceding Articles, the protectors shall have the power to visit, when they think proper, the estates or establishments where there are colonists, either personally or by means of other functionaries, and to examine the colonists as they may think fit.

LX. The delegates of the master in the estate or establishment in which the colonists work, may also exercise disciplinary jurisdiction, but under the pecuniary responsibility of the same master, and without prejudice to the penal responsibility which they may incur.

LXI. The following offences shall be punished as above (disciplinarmente):

1. Insubordination to the master, to the superintendents, or to any other delegate of the master.

2. Refusal to work, or want of punctuality in any particular piece of work.

3. Injuries which do not oblige the party injured to suspend work.

4. Desertion.

5. Drunkenness.

6. Infraction of the rules of discipline established by the master.

7. Offences against good manners not constituting crimes, which cannot be prosecuted unless at the instance of the parties, or which constituting a crime of this kind are not prosecuted by the party offended.

8. Any other act done with malice, and from which injury or damage accrues to a third person, and which nevertheless does not constitute an offence subject to legal prosecution.

LXII. The disciplinary jurisdiction shall be exercised by the masters without prejudice to the right of injured parties to require that the offending colonist shall be punished by the tribunals if there be just cause.

LXIII. The ordinary tribunals, to which the colonists shall present themselves represented in the form prescribed in Article XXVI, shall have cognizance in all cases of penal or civil responsibility in which the masters are not competent judges according to the regulation in Article LXI.

LXIV. When the punishments pointed out in Article LVI are not sufficient to prevent the colonists from repeating the same or committing other offences, the master shall apply to the protector, who, if the act constitutes an offence according to the laws, shall decide that the guilty colonist may be punished by them; and if not, by additional disciplinary punishment.

LXV. If the colonists of an estate should mutiny, or resist by force and collectively the orders of their superiors, the master may also employ force to bring them to order; and he shall give immediate information to the delegated protector, in order that if the gravity of the case require it, he may take measures for having the guilty colonists punished at once in the presence of the other colonists.

LXVI. The regulations hitherto in force relative to Chinese and Yucatan colonists are hereby abrogated.

General Regulation.

The Governor Captain-General of the island shall take the proper measures in order that every year, by the month of January, lists of the colonists may be made out or corrected; the lists shall state their names, sex, ages, country, whether they are married or single, their trades, the period of their contract, and the name, profession, and domicile of their respective masters.

The same authority shall send to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers an annual abstract of the said registers, stating the number of colonists of each nation, classified by sexes; by ages up to 15 years, from 15 to 50, and from that age upwards; by condition, as unmarried, married, or widowers; by occupations, whether agricultural, industrial, or domestic; by the districts in which they reside; and by the time of duration of their contracts, according as they may be under 5 years, from 5 to 10 years, from 10 to 15 years, and from 15 years upwards.

Given at the Palace, March 22, 1854.

Signed by the Royal Hand.

The President of the Council of Ministers,

(Signed)

LUIS JOSE SARTORIUS.

Taking into consideration the reasons stated to me by my President of the Council of Ministers, and in conformity with the opinion of the same Council I have determined to approve the following Regulations, which are to be observed in the Island of Cuba for preparing lists and a civil register of slaves:

CHAPTER 1.

Respecting Lists and First Inscription of Slaves in the Civil Register.

ART. I. On such days as the Captain-General may fix, the municipal officers of the towns (pedáneos), accompanied by such functionaries or private individuals as the respective Governors or Lieutenant-Governors may appoint, will proceed to the preparation of the lists of slaves throughout the island.

II. These lists shall state, with due clearness and exactitude, the names of the slaves, their sex, the nation to which they belong, and their age, if it be known, and if not known, what their age may appear to be; also the names of their parents, if known, their social position, their occupation, their personal description, and lastly, the name, profession, and domicile of the owner.

III. The municipal officers and the delegates accompanying them will sign all the lists of their district, and the owners of slaves will sign their own lists, both being responsible to the Governor or to the tribunals, according to the gravity of the case, for any mistake or any inexactitude showing a fraudulent intention.

IV. Any owner of slaves who shall cause to be entered in the lists a greater number of slaves than he really possesses, shall pay a fine of from 200 to 500 dollars for every additional slave so entered.

V. The same penalty shall be inflicted on the owner who shall enter any of his slaves with a false description showing a fraudulent intention.

VI. The "pedáneo" and delegates who may be convicted of connivance in any of the frauds alluded to in the two preceding Articles, shall be tried and punished as forgers of public documents.

VII. After the expiration of the term fixed for the formation of the lists, the "pedáneos" will send them in original to the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of the respective district, keeping a certified copy of the same.

VIII. In every chief town of a district a civil register of slaves shall be established, which shall comprise all those slaves who may have their habitual residence within the same district, and which will be intrusted to a public functionary appointed by the Government.

IX. The Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, on receiving the lists from the "pedáneos," will transmit them, with his certificate, to the keeper of the register for the inscription in the latter of all the slaves comprised in the lists, without omitting any of the marks or circumstances noted therein.

X. After the expiration of the time fixed for the formation of the lists, and when the civil registers in the districts shall be opened, the Captain-General will fix a further short period, not to be extended, during which the owners of slaves, who, for any reason whatever, may have omitted to enter any of their

slaves, may present themselves to the "pedáneo," together with the omitted slaves in question, to have them entered.

XI. After the expiration of this second term, the "pedáneos" shall transmit to the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor the lists which they may have drawn up during this second period, in the manner prescribed in Articles II, III, VI, and VII, and then the registers for all first inscriptions shall be irrevocably closed, excepting the inscription of newly-born children, or that which may be ordered to be made by the proper authorities after due examination of the circumstances of the case.

XII. The registers being closed, the Captain-General will fix a further period within which the owners of slaves shall receive, through the "pedáneos," two certified copies of the inscription of each slave, which shall be called "cédulas de registro" (register tickets).

XIII. The register tickets shall state briefly the description and circumstances of each slave, according to the tenor of the inscription, and they will be issued by the keeper of the register, and countersigned by the respective Governor or Lieutenant-Governor.

XIV. The Governors or Lieutenant-Governors will cause new register tickets to be issued whenever they may be requested to do so by the owners of slaves, in consequence of the original ones having been lost; and the keepers of registers will also issue such tickets by their own authority whenever they may make any alteration in the original inscription, or when they enter for the first time in their register any slaves proceeding from other districts and registered in the same according to the rules to be laid down in the next Chapter.

The issuing of the ticket shall always be entered in the register-book, and if it should be issued in duplicate, the reason for so doing will be stated.

XV. The registers being once closed, all slaves who may not have been inscribed therein by their owners shall be considered as manumitted and free, by virtue of the law, with the exception of those cases in which the proper authorities may direct the slaves to be registered, according to the regulations hereinafter laid down.

XVI. After the expiration of the term in which the owners of slaves are to receive from the "pedáneos" the register tickets, the slaves will not be allowed to pass freely in the country or on the public roads without carrying with them one of the copies of their ticket.

Any slave who may be found without this document will be treated as a deserter; and after his arrest by the authorities notice will be sent to the owner that he may present the register ticket.

If within thirty days after that in which the owner has received the aforesaid notice the register ticket shall not be presented the slave shall be declared free, and the proper authority will deliver to him his letter of freedom.

XVII. After the register has been closed, only the following slaves will be inscribed in it for the first time:

1. Slaves born subsequently to the closing of the register.
2. Those who may be declared slaves by sentence of the Courts of Justice and after due proof of their legitimate origin.
3. Those whom the Captain-General or his delegates the Governors or Lieutenant-Governors may direct to be entered as legitimately imported into the island, or as not having been in the possession of their owners during the period fixed for their inscription.

XVIII. The newly-born slaves shall be entered by their owners within one month, to be reckoned from the day of their birth, in the form prescribed in Article II.

XIX. The men of colour whose state of freedom or of slavery may be in question before the Courts of Justice, shall be entered with a note of this circumstance; but the sentence whereby they are declared slaves will have no force whatsoever so long as it has not been registered in the form hereinafter described.

XX. Any person legitimately importing any slave into the Island of Cuba shall present him, within eight days after his arrival, to the superior political authority of the port in which he has been landed, in order that that functionary,

after having duly ascertained the legitimacy of his origin, may direct him to be registered in the town where he is to reside.

If the slaves so imported should be obliged to continue their journey, in company with their owners, within the eight days, the owners shall cause them to be included in their own passports until they arrive at the place where they are to fix their residence.

If the order for entering a slave is to be carried into effect out of the district of the authority by whom it has been given, such order will only serve as a pass, in order that the slave may present himself to the Governor or the Lieutenant-Governor of the district where he is to reside, and that the owner may apply to the aforesaid functionaries to have the slave registered after the necessary inquiries.

In no case shall the pass in question be valid beyond thirty days from its date.

XXI. The Governors of penal establishments will cause the slaves who may be under their custody to be registered, stating, in the register of each slave, the owner to whom he belongs, the cause of his imprisonment, the period of his sentence, and how much of it is unexpired.

XXII. Those slaves who may have run away during the time fixed for the registration, and who may subsequently be found, shall be registered, after they have been presented by their owners to the Governor or the Lieutenant Governor of the district, and after these functionaries shall have duly ascertained the fact of the slave having run away.

CHAPTER 2.

Yearly Revision of Lists, and Inscription of the Titles relative to Slaves.

XXIII. Every year, in the month of January, and on the days which the Captain-General may appoint, the "pedáneos" will proceed to revise the official lists of the preceding year with all the formalities prescribed in Articles I, II, and III, and under the responsibility established in Articles IV, V, and VI.

XXIV. The revised lists will be transmitted, through the same channel and in the same manner as the first ones, to the proper keeper of the register.

XXV. The keeper of the register will compare the description of each slave in the list with his inscription in the register; and if they agree with each other, he will issue new register tickets, noting in the book that the two documents are identical.

Should he find any difference between them, he will report it to the proper Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, in order that this functionary, being aware of the fact, may take measures against the party concerned, and may give directions as to the issuing of the register ticket.

XXVI. After the revision of the official lists, and the issuing of the new register tickets, the old ones shall be annulled, and will become invalid.

XXVII. The owners of slaves shall report direct, and in writing, to the keeper of the register, within the fortnight subsequent to the conclusion of any acts or contracts, every change which may occur in the condition of any slave, or in the rights exercised over them. Consequently the owners are bound to report the manumissions, the partial redemptions (*coartaciones*), the sales, and any other transactions which may involve either a total or partial transfer of ownership, or any stipulation or reservation which may cause the revocation, dissolution, restriction, or suspension of the free power of disposing of the slaves; the usufruct and the adjudications *in solutum*; the leases whereby the place of residence of the slave may have to be changed for a longer time than that which is to elapse between the conclusion of the contract and the next revision of the lists; and also all such leases, whatever be the time of their duration, whereby the plantation or estate to which the slaves belong has been let to another person; and, finally, the marriages and deaths of the slaves.

XXVIII. All such acts or contracts as are, or ought to be, drawn up in the form of a public deed, according to law or custom, shall be reported by the owners by exhibiting to the keeper of registers a certified copy of such deed.

XXIX. All such acts or contracts as do not require the aforesaid formality, and which have been drawn up only in the form of a private transaction, shall be reported by presenting a copy of the same, signed by the same persons who may have subscribed the original deed.

XXX. The registration of all titles transferring, modifying, or revoking the ownership of the slaves, and which may be the consequence of a judicial sentence or of an arbitration, will be made by exhibiting a copy of the aforesaid sentence delivered by order of the Judge or of the Court of Justice which has pronounced it.

The Judge or Court of Justice will cause this document to be issued gratis whenever the title to be registered is favourable to the slave.

XXXI. All titles, either under a will or an intestacy, shall be registered, in the former case, by the heir exhibiting a copy of the will or of the division of the inheritance, and, in the latter, by exhibiting a legalized copy of the judicial writ adjudicating the intestate succession; and in case the judicial authority should not have acted in the case, by presenting a certificate from the Judge or the "pedáneo" of the place in which the will has been made, proving that the person who requests the registration is in undisturbed possession of the inheritance.

XXXII. Verbal acts and contracts shall be separately reported by both contracting parties, who shall set forth in their written report, to be signed by them, all the conditions of the agreement.

XXXIII. The marriages and deaths shall be reported by the owners by means of a note signed by them, and also by the parson of the parish in a similar note, stating the book and page in which the entry has been made in the parochial register.

The parson shall record in his register, the circumstance of his having reported the fact to the keeper of the slave register.

XXXIV. Whenever the keeper of the register shall receive any of the documents mentioned in the preceding Articles, he will make a proper record of the circumstances in the registry of the slave in order to facilitate thereby the ascertainment of the rights acquired by or over the slave, together with all the conditions which may modify such a right or the fact in question.

No note will be written on the register if it be not proved by the same register that the person possessing the right which is to be inscribed is the present owner of the slave.

XXXV. Such acts or contracts as require to be registered, shall only be binding after the date of their inscription or record in the register.

XXXVI. No person possessing a registered title can be deprived thereof by any subsequent or previous act, if such act is not duly recorded in the same register.

XXXVII. The keeper of the register, after making the proper record, will keep in proper order the documents which may have been exhibited to him for the aforesaid purpose, unless they be public deeds, in which case he will return them to the parties, after certifying thereon the fact of their having been registered.

At the same time, and in all cases in which the slaves remain in their state of slavery, the keeper of the register will deliver to the owners new register tickets, always taking from them, if possible, the old ones, and those belonging to deceased or manumitted slaves.

XXXVIII. The owners are bound to report the manumission or partial redemption (coartacion) of their slaves, under the penalty of paying a fine of from 100 to 500 dollars, should they fail to do so.

The same penalty will be inflicted on the owners or vicars who should omit to report the death of any of the slaves, but the fine will be reduced to one-fourth part of the aforesaid sum, if the omission be relative to the marriage of a slave.

XXXIX. The obligation of reporting any other written act or contract which may confer a right over a slave, is incumbent upon the person who acquires such a right, under the penalty of being unable to claim the slave at any time, should he not fulfil that obligation within the fixed term.

XL. In verbal acts and contracts entailing on both contracting parties the obligation of reporting the same, the omission to do so will be punished, with regard to the buyer, by the penalty mentioned in the foregoing Article; and with regard to the seller, by a fine of 15 to 50 dollars.

XLI. Whenever any owner may desire to change the residence of his slaves from one district to another, he shall request the registrar of the district he is going to leave, to cancel the entries relative to the aforesaid slaves, and to return to him the official lists of the same, with which he will present himself to the "pedáneo" of the town or rural district where the slaves are to reside, and will request their registration.

The "pedáneo" shall immediately comply with his request, after a previous inspection of the slaves in question; and he will forward the new official lists which he is to draw up, together with the old ones, to the Governor or the Lieutenant-Governor of the district, who will direct the registrar to make the proper entries, and to issue the corresponding register tickets.

XLII. The Governors of penal establishments shall report the release of those slaves whom they may have under their custody, to the registrar of the district where the owners of such slaves reside.

The owners of the slaves in question shall also make a similar report within the first fortnight after the reception of the slaves in their houses or estates; and the registrar will make the necessary record, after ascertaining the conformity of both reports.

CHAPTER 3.

Keeping of the Register.

XLIII. The civil register of the slaves of every district will be intrusted to a keeper appointed by the Queen, and proposed to Her Majesty by the Captain-General of the island.

XLIV. The registrars, previous to entering upon the discharge of their duties, shall swear before the Governor or the Lieutenant-Governor of the district that they will discharge their duties honourably and faithfully; and they will also give proper security in cash or landed property, at the discretion of the Captain-General.

Whenever there may be several applicants for one of these posts, the preference shall be given to the person offering the largest security, provided he is not otherwise disqualified for the post.

XLV. The registrars will have no other salary than a fee of one "real fuerte" (the eighth part of one dollar, or about sixpence), for every register ticket which they may issue, and the fees on certificates, as is hereinafter provided.

The above-mentioned fees shall be paid by the owner of the slave on whose behalf the register tickets shall be issued, or by the person applying for the certificate.

XLVI. The registrar shall keep a book in which he will make a short entry of the documents which may be exhibited to him on the presentation of a slave, stating the nature of each document, the registration or record which may be requested, the day and the hour of the presentation, and the name of the person who makes the presentation.

XLVII. The registrar will examine the documents alluded to in the foregoing Article, in the same order in which they are presented to him; and after finishing this examination, he will enter in another book those documents which he may find drawn up in a legal form.

XLVIII. If the registrar should find in any document an omission capable of being supplied, he will suspend the registration, and will send back the document in question to the person or functionary who may have presented it, and will record this circumstance in the corresponding book.

Should the defective document be a private one, the registrar will summon the parties concerned, in order that they may, by agreement and in writing, explain any obscure passage, or amend the error committed.

Should the registrar find it necessary, in consequence of any mistake or defect in a document, to refuse to make the entry or record, he will state this

circumstance in the proper book, and will give to the party concerned a certificate of this record, returning to him the presented document.

In this case, any loss arising from the absence of the registration, will only fall upon the person responsible for the omission.

XLIX. The registrar shall give to any person who may require it a certificate of anything stated or omitted to be stated in the register.

When such certificates are requested by persons not having an apparent and direct interest in the acts or contracts noted in the register relative to slaves, the registrar will exact for every certificate a fee of four reales fuertes (half-a-dollar, or two shillings) less the amount of stamped paper.

L. The registrar will immediately rectify any mistake he may make in the entries or records, and will make the proper explanations in the register, withdrawing, on his own account, the register-tickets or certificates which he may have issued with any mistake in them, and he will replace them with new ones.

LI. The registrar will be held responsible with his bail, and in default thereof with his own property, for all damages and losses of which he may be the cause in consequence of any omission which may be imputed to him or to his subordinates; and he will be, moreover, liable to be fined for every one of such omissions in the sum of from 25 to 250 dollars, besides the judicial responsibility he may have incurred, according to common law.

LII. Any slave who may not have been registered, owing to an omission on the part of the registrar shall be free; but the registrar will be bound to make good to the owner the sum of money at which the slave in question may be valued.

LIII. The Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba will issue the proper instructions for the formation of the register-books; prescribing the formalities with which they are to be kept; and publishing models to serve as a pattern for inscriptions, and for records of every kind, certificates, and register-tickets.

Provisional Regulations.

LIV. The Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba will adopt the proper measures for the immediate execution of the present Regulations; and will settle, by his own authority, any doubtful points which may arise, and he will decide any unforeseen case, subsequently submitting the same to my Royal approbation.

LV. The aforesaid functionary will provisionally appoint the registrars who are to be established; for which post he may select, provided he may think proper, public notaries or functionaries of another class.

LVI. The Captain-General will likewise fix, *ad interim*—pending a reference through the President of the Council of Ministers, for the proper decision thereupon—the amount of security which is to be given by the registrars whom he may at once appoint.

General Regulation.

When the lists of slaves are drawn up, the Governor and Captain-General will transmit to the Government, through the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, a return stating the number of registered slaves, and specifying the respective number of males and females; the married and unmarried of both sexes; widowers and widows; slaves under fifteen years of age, and those above that age, and under fifty; and lastly, those above fifty, making the proper distinction of sexes, and stating, also, the number of slaves employed in agriculture, industry, and domestic service.

The aforesaid functionary will transmit to the Government, in the month of March, a similar return, according to the lists which will have been rectified in January, stating the number of births and deaths during the year.

Done at the Palace, March 22, 1854.

(Signed Manû Regia.)

(Countersigned)

LUIS JOSE SARTORIUS,
President of the Council of Ministers.

No. 385.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 28, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th instant, inclosing copies of Royal Decrees issued at Madrid on the 22nd ultimo, with regard to slavery in Cuba, and with a view of promoting colonisation in that island.

I have received these documents with sincere satisfaction, and it is my agreeable duty in reply to instruct your Lordship to convey to the Spanish Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the adoption of measures, which, if faithfully carried out, as they doubtless will be by the distinguished officer who now fills the office of Captain-General in Cuba, must go far to put a stop to the nefarious Traffic, which for so many years has been the cause of difference between England and Spain.

Her Majesty's Government rejoice at this improved prospect, not less on account of humanity than of the relations between the two countries, which Her Majesty's Government desire always to see placed on the most cordial and friendly footing.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 386.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 11, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th of January,* inclosing a letter addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers by the Conde de Bagaes, denying that his agents in Cuba had connived at a landing of slaves, which was reported by Mr. Crawford to have taken place on his estate in that island on the 14th September, 1853; I have to inform your Lordship, that I transmitted copies of your despatch in question, and of its inclosures, to Mr. Crawford, for any observations which he might have to offer thereupon and I now transmit to your Lordship, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Crawford in reply.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 387.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch‡ from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing a circumstantial and apparently correct narrative of the details of certain transactions connected with several landings of slaves at the Ensenada de Cortez in Cuba, which were communicated to General Cañedo by Mr. Crawford in the course of last year.

The writer of this narrative exposes the disgraceful manner in which the managers of those landings, and particularly the persons concerned in the affair of the American barque "*Jasper*," succeeded by bribery and other means in eluding the several commissions of inquiry which were sent by General Cañedo to investigate these proceedings; and I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate the inclosed paper to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to point out to his Excellency how amply it corroborates

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 488.

† No. 459.

‡ No. 462.

the information from Mr. Crawford as to the importation of slaves into Cuba, and the connivance therein of the local authorities, which Her Majesty's Government have, during the year 1853, brought under the notice of Her Catholic Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 388.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith, in translation, an extract from the "Official Gazette" of this day, engaging the punctual execution of the late order which enjoins a registration of slaves in Cuba, for the purpose of preventing the fraudulent introduction of more.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 388.

Extract from the Official Gazette of May 17, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE English newspaper named the "Morning Chronicle" of the 8th instant, published a letter from its own correspondent at Madrid, containing a paragraph the translation of which is as follows:—

"Owing to the influence of certain parties here connected with Cuba, who conceive that their interests will be affected by the registry of slaves directed to be drawn up by the recent Decree, subsequent orders have been, it appears, transmitted to General Pezuela not to carry that part of the Decree into effect. It is true, indeed, that such a proceeding as this would not be without a precedent, for when the Slave Trade Treaty with England was first made, in 1835, there was good reason for believing that the same conveyance which took out that Treaty, and the public instructions to the authorities of Cuba to carry it into effect, carried out private instructions which were by no means in word with the public ones. Should it happen that anything of the kind has been attempted on the present occasion, General Pezuela is the sort of man who would be very likely to throw up his place, should he consider it necessary to do so."

So far for the Madrid correspondence of the English newspaper. Now then, we are properly authorised to contradict, as we hereby do, in the most solemn manner, the absurd news which, accompanied with no less absurd comments, has been communicated to the editors of the "Morning Chronicle" by their misinformed correspondent at Madrid; and we are enabled to affirm that so far from there being the least foundation for the aforesaid rumour, the fact is, that extremely clear and peremptory orders have been issued to the General and Governor of the Island of Cuba, directing him to put the Royal Decrees in question into immediate and punctual execution, in all their parts, adopting for this purpose all measures which his zeal may suggest to him and which public expediency may advise.

No. 389.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 30.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith, copy of a short note which I thought it well to address to Señor Calderon de la Barca. Although I was not instructed to make this communication, I trust that your Lordship will not see any reason to disapprove of it.

Inclosure in No. 389.

Lord Howden to Señor Calderon de la Barca.

Sir,

Madrid, May 17, 1854.

AS the Government of Her Catholic Majesty have frequently expressed their belief that Mr. Crawford, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Cuba, was actuated by personal hostility to the Captains-General of that island, and was labouring under prejudice and rancour in the communications he sent home on the subject of the Slave Trade, I take the liberty of transcribing a paragraph from a letter of Mr. Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon, which has been forwarded to me :

"The Captain-General Pezuela appears to be actuated by the most sincere desire to do everything in his power to check and put down the Traffic, as well as to ameliorate the condition of the slaves as much as possible, consistently with the security of the island under his government."

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 390.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca in reply to the communication which I addressed to his Excellency under the instructions in your Lordship's despatch of the 6th ultimo, proving the systematic manner in which the Slave Trade was carried on under the late Captain-General of Cuba, and showing the necessity of upholding and supporting the present Governor, the Marquis de la Pezuela.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 390.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, May 16, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's note dated the 12th of April last, inclosing copies of Mr. Crawford's communications to Lord Clarendon, wherein he replies to the arguments contained in my note of the 12th of December of last year, relative to the three landings of slaves which were supposed to have taken place at the Ensenadas de Cortes and Del Carmelo, and at San Juan de los Remedios.

Although, after the recent declarations made by your Lordship and by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, acknowledging the energy with which

the Slave Trade is now persecuted, it would appear inopportune to enter into any detailed refutation of the arguments which are newly adduced by Mr. Crawford in support of a denunciation, the incorrectness whereof has been already proved, I cannot abstain, however, from calling your Lordship's attention to the pertinacity with which the British Consul still refuses to acknowledge the good faith and the activity, on the part of the Spanish authorities, which are demonstrated, in so striking a manner, in the process which was instituted for the purpose of eliciting the truth which there might have been in the landings above alluded to. By my aforesaid note of the 12th December last, your Lordship will have perceived, that in the case in question, no efforts whatsoever were spared to attain the above-mentioned object; and when, notwithstanding all these efforts, no traces were found which might lead to the presumption that the landings in question had taken place, the depositions to the contrary, on the part of three sailors, which is the principal basis on which Mr. Crawford founds his arguments for still maintaining the correctness of the aforesaid landings, cannot certainly be very strong.

I, therefore, will abstain from protracting, as I have stated above, the discussion upon a matter which, in my opinion, ought to be considered as settled.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 391.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.-(Received May 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, May 18, 1854.

IN conformity with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd ultimo, I communicated to Señor Calderon de la Barca copy of Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatch to your Lordship of the 9th March, inclosing copies of the defence set up in behalf of the three British sailors who were on board the slave-ship "*Jasper*," and also of the sentence of the Court, in virtue of which they have been set at liberty.

His Excellency has addressed to me in reply the note a translation of which I herewith inclose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 391.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Madrid, May 15, 1854.

THE Undersigned, First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has learnt with satisfaction, by the note of Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary dated the 11th of April last, the satisfactory termination of the trial in Cuba, of the three English sailors who were found on board the schooner "*Jasper*."

As the Cabinet of Her Britannic Majesty is convinced of the sincerity and energy with which the Slave Trade is now persecuted in the Island of Cuba, the Undersigned thinks it would be inopportune to enter at present into any discussion upon the insinuations which Mr. Crawford made on this subject in his despatch, copy of which was inclosed in the above-mentioned note.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 392.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo,* inclosing an extract from the "Madrid Gazette" of that day, which in contradiction of a statement which had appeared in the "Morning Chronicle" of the 8th of May, asserts that distinct and positive orders had been sent to the Governor-General of Cuba, directing him to carry into immediate effect the Royal Decrees respecting Slavery in Cuba which were issued on the 22nd of March last. And I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of informing Señor Calderon de la Barca, that the assurance contained in the above-mentioned article of the "Madrid Gazette" has afforded great satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 393.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo,† I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having communicated to Señor Calderon de la Barca the favourable expressions respecting the Captain-General of Cuba which were contained in Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 27th of March.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 394.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 28, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of two despatches‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, relative to an important order which was issued by the Captain-General of Cuba, on the 3rd of May, prescribing regulations for the discovery of illegally imported negroes, and for the punishment of the authorities of any districts of the island where negroes shall be landed without official notice of such landings having been communicated to the Captain-General.

I have to instruct you to inform the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have received a copy of the above-mentioned Order, and that it is again my agreeable duty to thank the Spanish Government for the firm determination displayed by the Captain-General of Cuba in regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

And you will express the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Marquis de la Pezuela will receive the support and encouragement that he is justly entitled to expect on the part of the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 388.

† No. 389.

‡ Nos. 476 and 477.

No. 395.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in answer to a communication addressed by Lord Howden to his Excellency in pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 19th December last,* upon the subject of a reported landing of upwards of 300 negroes at the Ensenada de Cochinos, towards the middle of October 1853.

Your Lordship will observe that his Excellency does not in any way allude to the number of negroes thus landed on this occasion, but confines himself to stating that 15 negroes from the landing in question have been taken and declared free.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 395.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 12, 1854.

IN my note of the 7th February last I informed you of the result of the investigations made by the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was true that a schooner, rigged with the masts of the "*Venus*," was being fitted out for the Slave Trade in the Havana,—a fact which had been denounced as true by Mr. Crawford, and which was mentioned in your note of the 30th of December last.

In the last-mentioned note you alluded to a landing of negroes at the Ensenada de Cochinos; on this case information from the Captain-General has been received, from which it appears that 15 negroes, who formed part of the aforesaid landing, have been seized and declared free, having been put in apprenticeship, in conformity with the provisions of the regulations respecting the emancipados.

I hasten to communicate the above to you, as the complement of my aforesaid note of the 7th of February last.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 396.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 21, 1854.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th instant, to Lord Howden,† I have informed Señor Calderon de la Barca of the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the assurance given in the "*Madrid Gazette*" of the 17th of last month that the recent orders relating to the Slave Trade in Cuba will be carried into immediate effect.

His Excellency expressed himself as much pleased and gratified by the communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

* See Class B, presented 1854; No. 482.

† No. 392.

No. 397.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 5, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* dated the 29th of May last, which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting that a cargo of Bozal negroes, which had been landed at Cardenas in April last, had been, by order of the Captain-General, pursued on to the estate whither they had been conveyed, and that the negroes had, by his Excellency's orders, been seized and declared emancipados; and I have to instruct you to express to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty the thanks and satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at this energetic proceeding on the part of the Marquis de la Pezuela.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 398.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 9.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 4, 1854.

IN reference to Lord Howden's despatch to your Lordship of the 23rd January last,† relative to the Spanish vessel "*Paquita*," supposed to be engaged in the Slave Trade, I have the honour to forward a translation of a note (and its inclosure), which has been addressed to me by Señor Calderon de la Barca, containing certain information which his Excellency had received from the Captain-General of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 398.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 29, 1854.

WITH reference to my note of the 13th of January of this year, relative to the Spanish brig "*Paquita*," which was supposed to be engaged in the Slave Trade, I have the honour to inclose copy of the communication which the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers, on this subject.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 398.

The Marquis de la Pezuela to the President of the Council of Ministers.

(Translation.)

Havana, May 11, 1854.

I HAVE received the Royal order of the 12th February last, relative to a note addressed by Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Madrid to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, stating that the Spanish brig "*Paquita*," which had been denounced as a slaver, had sailed from Barcelona for the Havana, where she was to be fitted out for Africa, as she is supposed to have been after having landed her cargo.

* No. 482.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 493.

I have the honour to state to your Excellency in reply, that the aforesaid vessel, Don Francisco Segovia, master, and belonging to the register of Nuevitas in this island, arrived at the Havana, from Santander on the 7th of April last, with a cargo of flour, having cleared from that port on the 21st of February, and having landed her cargo here, she took, on the 12th of April, her bill of clearance for London, for which port she took on board 1,550 casks of sugar, and her hold having been visited on the 26th of the same month, no other articles were found on board than the aforesaid cases of sugar. This vessel is really fit for the reprobated Traffic of Africa; but the state of her rigging, according to my information, the neglected condition in which she is, the paucity of her crew and the small fire-place she has got, do not correspond with the well-found condition generally displayed on board of slavers; unless, on her arrival at London, she were to be provided with and furnish herself with the necessary supplies.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) EL MARQUES DE LA PEZUELA.

No. 399.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, reporting the exertions made by the Captain-General of Cuba to put an end to the Slave Trade, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government learn these proceedings with the sincerest satisfaction.

If the predecessors of the present Captain-General had acted in the same praiseworthy manner, the Slave Trade never would have reached its present height, nor would the good faith of Spain have been called in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 400.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 20, 1854.

GENERAL CONCHA leaves this to-morrow for La Coruña and the Havana.

He dined with me yesterday, and on taking leave he requested me to state to Her Majesty's Government, that although under existing circumstances of all sort of difficulty coming from both America and home, it would be necessary for him to act with the greatest caution in what concerns property (I presume he alluded to the very thorny question of entering upon estates), yet, in everything that related to the fraudulent introduction of negroes, the British Government would find him the vigorous and uncompromising enemy of the slave-dealer, and one determined to maintain the Treaties into which Spain had entered.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 401.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 4.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship translation of a note I have received from Señor Pacheco, announcing the capture of a considerable number of Bozal negroes, and I annex the answer which I returned. I thought it right and just to mark the appreciation entertained in England of General Pezuela's worth to the Government which had recalled him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 401.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 26, 1854.

THE Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has reported to the Government of Her Majesty the Queen my Sovereign, in his communications of the 27th, 29th, and 30th of June last, that three seizures of Bozal negroes have taken place, the total number of them amounting to 647, and that these important seizures are due to the peremptory orders of the afore-said Captain-General, and to the zeal and efficiency with which these orders have been fulfilled by the authorities of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritu, and Bahia Honda, in which districts the landings respectively took place.

I hasten to bring to your Lordship's knowledge this new fact, which renders patent the decided zeal with which the Slave Trade is being persecuted. Trusting that you will communicate it to your Government as soon as possible,

I avail, &c.

(Signed) I. F. PACHECO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 401.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, August 29, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Excellency's note of the 26th instant, informing me of a considerable capture of Bozal negroes, and I hasten to transmit it to my Government.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty will receive this information with the greatest pleasure, but without any surprise. The honourable conduct of General Pezuela while he has exercised his command in Cuba, has called for the repeated thanks of England, and has inspired her with a confidence in the authorities of Cuba, which unfortunate and undeniable facts had long suppressed. In leaving the Havana, General Pezuela will leave in England a respectful and grateful memory of his administration, and a hope, I believe a well founded one, that his successors will take him for an example and follow in his path.

I avail, &c

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 402.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 13, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, and I have to state that Her Majesty's Government learn with satisfaction the assurance given to your Lordship by General Concha of his intention to act vigorously against the slave-dealers in Cuba. I must however remark that the Marquis de la Pezuela has proved that there is no difficulty in entering upon estates in search of negroes.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 403.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 14, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th ultimo, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting a recent seizure of Bozal negroes by the authorities of Cuba.

And I have in reply to express to your Lordship my entire approval of the letter which you addressed to Señor Pacheco on the 29th ultimo, informing his Excellency of the sense entertained by the people of England of the honourable conduct which has been pursued by the Marquis de la Pezuela, with regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade, during his administration.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 404.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, giving an account of the capture of the greater portion of a cargo of slaves which had been landed at Bahia Honda, and pointing out the good results of giving rewards for the discovery of Bozal negroes; and I have to observe that the operations described in this despatch prove how much good can be effected by an honest and energetic Captain-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 405.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting the wreck of a slaver on the Isle of Pines, with the loss of all on board excepting the master, three sailors, and five slaves.

With regard to Mr. Crawford's concluding remark, that the only effectual means of deterring Spanish subjects from engaging in the Slave Trade, would

* No. 499.

† No. 502.

be to declare that trade to be piracy by the law of Spain, it is unnecessary for me to observe to your Lordship that the Spanish Government would do itself the greatest honour, and more than by any other act obtain the sympathy of the whole British nation, if it would pass a law declaring Slave Trade piracy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 406.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of 13th April last, inclosing copies of the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March, respecting slavery in Cuba, and to my reply of the 28th of April, I now transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office, inclosing a copy of a despatch* from the Governor of British Guiana, in which he gives his opinion as to the manner in which those Decrees may operate to the prejudice of colonists repairing to Cuba from Yucatan. And I have to instruct your Lordship to call the attention of the Spanish Government to the practical operation of these Decrees, and to state, that as Her Majesty's Government are convinced that it was the intention of the Government of Spain to encourage *bond fide* emigration, and not to establish a new form of Slave Trade, they cannot refrain from pointing out the hardship of the Decree as affecting Indian emigrants from Yucatan to Cuba, and suggesting that it may be modified.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 407.

M. Gonzalez to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, September 28, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to bring to the knowledge of his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., in conformity with the orders which he has received from Her Majesty's Government, and with reference to the Governor-General of the Island of Cuba, the capture of 295 Bozal negroes, which was made at Cayo Levisa, by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda, on the 28th of July.

The Undersigned has moreover the honour to inform the Earl of Clarendon that the above-mentioned chief officer of Cuba has suspended Brigadier Don Rafael Lopez Ballasteros, the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio, for having apparently connived at a landing of negroes which was effected on the coast within his jurisdiction; an event which came to light from the fact of a vessel which was suspected to be a slaver having been met with in that locality, with her masts cut away and hanging over the side, which circumstance caused the inquiries to be made which led to the capture of 205 negroes belonging to this disembarkation.

The Undersigned flatters himself that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will see in these acts new proofs of the firmness displayed by the Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba in his proceedings against the Slave Trade, and of the resolution of Her Majesty's Government to take care that the Treaties which prohibit that Traffic shall be scrupulously fulfilled.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) ANTO. GONZALEZ.

No. 408.

*The Earl of Clarendon to M. Gonzalez.**Foreign Office, October 4, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 28th ultimo, by Don Antonio Gonzalez, &c., and at the same time to thank him for the communication therein made, of the energetic measures taken by the Captain-General of Cuba against all proceedings in that island tending to the promotion of the Traffic in Slaves.

Her Majesty's Government have on more than one recent occasion had the great satisfaction of conveying to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty the expression of their satisfaction and thanks for the change of system recently introduced in the Island of Cuba, and they trust that an energetic perseverance in that system which so redounds to the honour of Spain will not only prove a signal benefit to the cause of humanity, but put an end to those open infractions of Treaty that endangered the friendly relations between the two countries, which Her Majesty's Government earnestly desire to maintain and to strengthen.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 409.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 21.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, October 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a note which I have addressed to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty on the subject of declaring the Slave Trade to be piracy, and I trust it will meet with the approbation of your Lordship.

Inclosure in No. 409.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, October 10, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, has the honour to address himself to his Excellency Don T. F. Pacheco, Minister of State, on a subject not only highly important in itself both as regards Spain and humanity, but on one that interests the country which the Undersigned represents more, perhaps, than any others on which he has addressed the Government of Her Catholic Majesty since he has had the honour of residing at this Court.

His Excellency Señor Pacheco, with his usual intelligence, will not fail to foresee, even from this short preamble, that this question is the Slave Trade, and, with his known integrity, he will not be surprised that the Undersigned is instructed to ask the Spanish Government, now that it is free itself, and that it governs a free people, to brand this abominable Traffic by the name which belongs to it, and to declare it piracy.

After the correspondence of years upon years which has taken place between this Legation and the Department over which Señor Pacheco so worthily presides, on this nefarious Traffic, it is very far from the intention of the Undersigned to take up Señor Pacheco's time, and even to insult his understanding, by entering into any discussion on, in the first place, the iniquity of the Trade, and, secondly, on the means by which Spain is bound to repress it. So anxious is the Undersigned to avoid everything which can lead to a semblance of irritation, that he even willingly abstains from calling to his aid the promise of a law made by Spain which has never been fulfilled.

The Undersigned prefers discarding every allusion to what is over, and he

comes to the enlightened Government of the Duke of Victoria full of hope for the future, and without any animosity for the past.

The Undersigned rests this application on three considerations, and they are so manifest, that to name them is to argue them; he prefers exciting Señor Pacheco's inductions to obtruding his own.

Every civilized nation in Europe has, at this moment, declared the Slave Trade to be piracy. Is it possible that Spain should wish—will even consent—to stand alone on this question, and to persist in so little dignified an insulation?

The feelings of the whole English people, as if springing from one heart, would greet this great act of Spain. Will Spain think it prudent to chill this expectation, and, in times like these, to deaden those feelings which, in the shape of public opinion, direct every English Government in its relations with other Powers?

The Spanish Government has invariably professed its honesty of purpose in its endeavours to suppress the Slave Trade. If that be really the case, and the Undersigned is far from doubting it, what can be the objection on their part to do the only thing which can really give effect to their wishes?

Señor Pacheco will see, that in this short but unusually important communication, the Undersigned has abstained from all declamation as well as all recrimination. He has at once expressed the object of his Government—earnestly, ardently desired—and he rests his case far more on the admirable conduct of General Pezuela than on the disgraceful connivance of General Cañedo.

The Undersigned has some reason to believe that a proposition, in the sense of that he is now making, has already been submitted by an exalted personage to the President of the Council, and the Undersigned, at the instigation of the English Government, of the English Parliament, and of the English public, requests Señor Pacheco to lay this note before the Cabinet of Her Catholic Majesty, confiding in the wisdom and unprejudiced character of its members, and feeling sure that its illustrious President, the Duke of Victory, will take a subject so grave for humanity, so interesting for Europe, and so momentous for England, into his serious and early consideration.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 410.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 21.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of the note which I addressed to Señor Pacheco upon the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba as colonists, under the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March last, which formed the subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th of September.*

I also inclose translation of Señor Pacheco's note to me in acknowledgment of my communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 410.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, October 6, 1854.

BY the instructions of Her Majesty's Government I am desired to call your Excellency's attention to the operation of certain Decrees promulgated by Spain on the 22nd of March of this year, bearing on the question of slavery in Cuba, as it relates to colonists repairing to that island from Yucatan, and I take the liberty of making the following observations.

The constitution of the Mexican Republic affects to repudiate slavery altogether, but practically it is in full operation as regards the mutual relations of the Blancos, or Mexicans, and the Indians inhabiting the State. The Mexicans have generally contrived to get the Indians into debt to them, and they have established a law, that an Indian indebted to a Mexican must work for him until the debt is liquidated. During this servitude, the Mexican provides him with food and clothing for payment; and as he fixes the prices, and also keeps the account, it is not very surprising that the Indian, during his whole life, is never able to redeem himself from bondage; nor does the obligation cease here, but the children are compelled to take up the debt of their father. The oppressive operation of this law, and other cruelties exercised by the Mexicans, brought about, some years since, a revolt of the Indians, which the former have never been able to subdue, and which has grown into a civil war, characterized by much ferocity on both sides. They have lately attempted to make peace, but both really desire nothing less than the extermination of their rivals; and the correspondence in the Colonial Office will show that the authorities have more than once exported Indians forcibly to Cuba.

It is only too evident that where such feelings exist between the Government and the inhabitants of the country from which the colonists are to be sent to Cuba, the Decree of Her Catholic Majesty affords no sort of protection or guarantee against fraud and violence of every description. It is not in the smallest degree probable that a Mexican Yucateco will emigrate to Cuba on such terms. The emigrants will all be Indians, a fact of which I believe the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to be perfectly aware. The Vth Article of the 2nd Decree provides that the contracts are to be in the language of the colonist, and *visé* by the Spanish Consul; but the Indians are most illiterate, and would rarely be able, even if they were allowed an opportunity, to read the agreements.

With contracts made under such circumstances, what is there to prevent this revivification, as it were, of slavery under this Decree, more especially under the XIXth and five following Articles of it? The Decree, moreover, appears to be silent as to any limitation of the period for which these contracts may remain in force; but it may be fairly presumed that they are to be of a very extended character, from the fact that the XXIIInd Article, as a great boon, releases a child born during his mother's contract from its operation, on completing eighteen years of age, although the mother may remain in a state of bondage. There are many other Articles in this Decree which, in the absence of *bond fide* protection, at least at the time of the execution of the contracts, must reduce the colonists to a state of slavery.

Now, Her Britannic Majesty's Government being convinced that it was the intention of the Government of Spain to encourage *bond fide* emigration, and not to establish a new form of Slave Trade, they cannot refrain from pointing out the hardship of the Decree as affecting Indian emigrants from Yucatan to Cuba, and suggesting that this Decree may be modified by the intelligence and integrity of the Spanish Government, in order that frauds so likely to be committed may be effectually prevented.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 410.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 11, 1854.

UNDER this day's date, I have transmitted to the General Colonial Office a copy of your Lordship's note of the 6th instant, in which you are pleased to make some observations upon the Decrees relative to Slavery in the Island of Cuba, and to the importation of emigrant labourers into that colony; and as soon as I receive an answer, I will hasten to communicate it to your Lordship.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) I. F. PACHECO.

No. 411.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 11th instant, and I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve the letter which you addressed, on the 10th instant, to Señor Pacheco, urging upon the Spanish Government the enactment of a law declaring Slave Trade to be piracy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 412.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant, with its inclosures, and I have in reply to inform you that I approve the note which your Lordship addressed to Señor Pacheco on the 6th instant, respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba as colonists, under the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 413.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 7.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, October 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship translation of the note I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to the one in which I earnestly requested the Spanish Government to declare the Slave Trade piracy.

Inclosure 1 in No. 413.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Madrid, October 27, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Her Catholic Majesty's First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has submitted to the deliberation of the Spanish Government the note which his Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty has been pleased to address to him, under date of the 10th instant, proposing, in the name of his Government, that the Slave Trade be declared to be piracy.

The high importance which, according to Lord Howden's note, England attaches to this question, would have been a sufficient motive to induce the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to devote to it their most assiduous and preferent attention; but it was for them, moreover, a duty to do so, on account of the great importance which, in the present state of the Island of Cuba, belong to any measure which may, in any respect whatever, affect the interests or even the prejudices of its inhabitants.

The Undersigned concurs with the British Minister in thinking, that for the discussion of the affair alluded to in his note of the 10th instant, it is not necessary to enter into a retrospective examination of the long and sometimes tedious correspondence which, during many years, has passed between this Foreign Office and the Legation now so worthily represented by his Excellency Lord

Howden, on the subject of the Slave Trade. This Traffic has been, and continues to be, reprobated by Her Majesty's Government with the same intensity as that with which it is condemned by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty: both Governments, in proportion to their respective forces and means of action, persecute it and endeavour to extinguish it: and by so doing, they both obey, not only the eternal principles of humanity and right, but also the international Treaties and the peculiar laws of their respective countries. So far, therefore, from there being in this any cause or motive for recrimination, there is a perfect identity in the views and the object of both Governments.

The Undersigned, confining himself, therefore, to the essential point aimed at in Lord Howden's note—the assimilation of the Slave Trade to piracy—has to declare to his Excellency, with the most profound regret, that Her Catholic Majesty's Government thinks, that under the present circumstances of Cuba, it is not expedient to make the aforesaid assimilation without entering now into the question as to whether, even under other circumstances, it would be advisable to accede to it.

The observations which his Excellency the British Minister points out in support of that assimilation, are three in number.

The first is, that every civilized nation in Europe has already declared the Slave Trade to be piracy.

The Undersigned might enumerate the names of several European States which have made no such declaration, and to which he thinks, the appellation of civilized nations, cannot, nevertheless, be disputed; but he thinks, that it will be sufficient to quote the French and the Danish nations, which are both Colonial Powers, to which it cannot be presumed that Lord Howden would refuse to give that appellation, and in the laws of which, the Undersigned has not, however, found the declaration in question.

The second observation adduced by the British Minister is, that it would not be expedient, at this moment, to chill the expectation of the English people, who would hail with a unanimous greeting the act which is requested from the Spanish Government.

There is nothing which Her Catholic Majesty's Government more anxiously desires than to deserve the adhesion and applause of Great Britain, whose friendship they hold in high consideration and esteem; but the public opinion of that great nation is too enlightened not to conceive the duties which circumstances and prudence impose upon Governments; and the English nation is animated with too high a sense of patriotism not to respect the resolutions of friendly Governments which are dictated by the same noble feeling.

Finally, his Excellency the British Minister states, that if Her Catholic Majesty's Government is so sincerely anxious, as it has always professed, and as Lord Howden believes, to extinguish the Slave Trade, what can be the objection on their part to adopt the only efficient measure which can really give effect to their wishes?

The reply to this question will be at the same time the explanation of the reasons why Her Catholic Majesty's Government thinks that it is not in its power on the present occasion to comply with the wishes of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

The British Government cannot but be well aware of the dangers by which the Spanish Antilles are threatened at this moment. The Island of Cuba, which has been already invaded several times by parties of filibustiers conspiring against the Spanish domination, is the most coveted prize aimed at by the ambitious agitators who have hoisted as their banner the indefinite annexation of territories to the American Confederation. A crusade against Cuba has been raised in the press and in the clubs of the United States, and it has even sometimes found an echo in the American Chambers themselves. The contemplated acquisition of Cuba has given occasion to fraudulent speculations, in which the gross credulity of many has been turned into profit: finally, the Cuban question has been made use of as a lever to excite public opinion on behalf of certain political parties.

It is not necessary to state here again the sacrifices which such a state of things has imposed upon the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, nor the strenuous efforts which this Government is making for the proper defence of that island. But at the same time that it resorts to these material means, which are indispensable to that purpose, and imposed on it as a duty, Her Catholic

Majesty's Government is well aware that it must principally look for the safety of Cuba in the attachment and loyalty of its inhabitants towards the mother country. In order to keep alive and to foster these feelings amongst them, the Government devotes its especial care to the improvement of the administration of justice, as well as of the civil and economical laws; and for the attainment of this object it is its bounden duty to consult all interests, and not to alarm them with ill-meditated measures.

Now then, one of the most dangerous arms which have been made use of by those who conspire against the Spanish domination in Cuba, is the supposition that Her Catholic Majesty's Government entertains the project of Africanizing that island, that is to say, of converting it into a new Santo Domingo, by the emancipation of the slaves, which would produce the ruin of the white race and of the creoles, and the preponderance of the black race. However absurd this idea may be, it has, nevertheless, been spread about for the purpose of creating alarm amongst the owners of slaves, endeavouring, at the same time, to persuade them that the only means of avoiding the impending danger is to throw themselves into the arms of the United States, which would energetically defend the institution of slavery.

The enlightened mind of the British Government and of their worthy Representative at this Court, renders it superfluous for the Undersigned to enter into further details respecting a question which is already well known to them. But it will not be unseasonable to state here, that the disposition of the owners of slaves to view with some apprehension certain measures relative to slavery and to the Slave Trade, is so positive, that they have felt great discontent at some of those adopted by General Pezuela, although the real object thereof was only to prevent, in fulfilment of his instructions, the continuation of the Slave Trade.

Her Catholic Majesty's Government on stating, with the frankness and loyalty inherent to its intentions, and with its confidence in that of the British Government, the reasons which prevent them, to their deep regret, from acceding to the proposed assimilation, are far from harbouring the intention of slackening in the slightest degree the severity with which the Slave Trade is now persecuted. The numerous seizures of negroes which have been made during the last few months, are a proof that the existing laws are sufficient to attain that object; and if reasons, well known to everybody, have prevented its total extinction, the loyalty of the Government and the firmness of their functionaries are a guarantee of the continuation of the persecution of the Slave Trade, and of its being carried as far as possible.

The Undersigned has endeavoured to reply to the note of the British Minister with the same moderation which has been employed by his Excellency; he has avoided, like his Excellency, mentioning anything which might give rise to recrimination; and he has not even endeavoured to justify the Spanish Government with regard to the fault which is attributed to it in not having promulgated a law, as it had promised to do, because the Undersigned is not aware of any other law, relative to this matter, having been promised by Spain, than the one which was promulgated in 1845, whereby certain penalties were imposed on slave-dealers. The Undersigned's object has only been to state, with perfect sincerity, the reasons which make him refrain from acceding to the wishes expressed in Lord Howden's note; and he thinks that he has done so in a manner which cannot but be appreciated by his Excellency's enlightened judgment.

Her Catholic Majesty's Government confidently expects that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will do justice to the uprightness of its intentions; that they will acknowledge the force of the considerations which are the prompters of its conduct; and that they will feel convinced that these considerations are in no way opposed to the sincere desire by which it is animated of drawing more and more closer its friendly relations with the Government of Great Britain.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

I. F. PACHECO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 413.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, October 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note, containing the reasons which, in the estimation of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, prevent them from acceding to the request which I made, and which I did not exaggerate in saying was the request of the people of England, to declare the Slave Trade piracy.

I shall transmit this answer to my Government, deeply regretting that such has been the conclusion to which the Spanish Government have thought it their duty to arrive.

I shall confine myself at this moment to simply observing, that the prominent argument put forth by your Excellency, that the supposed Africanisation of the Island of Cuba—a charge, as your Excellency says, falsely imputed, but strenuously urged, by the enemies of Spain—would, in my comprehension, be not only not corroborated, but, on the contrary, would be most victoriously refuted by the adoption of the measure which I so earnestly solicited, and by preventing in the most stringent manner, and under the severest penalties, the introduction of any more Africans.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 414.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the answer which you returned to Señor Pacheco's note, stating that in the present position of Affairs in Cuba, the Spanish Government cannot assent to the request of Her Majesty's Government that Spain should declare the Slave Trade to be piracy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 415.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, giving an account of an interview which he had with his Excellency General Concha on the subject of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 514.

No. 416.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch* and of its inclosures which I have received from Mr. Lindegren, Her Majesty's Consul in the Island of Porto Rico, respecting the case of a British subject, named Mary Gordon, who it appears was kidnapped several years ago from St. Kitt's, and has been held as a slave by a proprietor of Porto Rico, named Antonio Guadalupe Colon.

Your Lordship will represent this woman's case to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and you will state, that although the tribunal of Royal Audiencia has not given a favourable decision thereupon, yet the bill of sale under which M. Colon claims to hold her as his slave is so entirely defective in point of law, and the evidence brought forward by Mr. Lindegren in support of her claim to freedom is so conclusive, that it would be an act of justice as well as of mercy on the part of the Spanish Government, to order that Mary Gordon, her children and grandchildren, should be emancipated from slavery.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 417.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana,‡ stating that General Concha's endeavours to put down the Slave Trade are not likely to produce much effect so long as it is generally understood, as is now the case in Cuba, that except under circumstances of the strongest suspicion, the Government officers will not visit the estates of planters to search for newly imported negroes, or for slaves exceeding the number of those registered as belonging to the estate.

Her Majesty's Government are far from wishing to make any complaint against General Concha, of whose honest intentions they see no reason to doubt, but I have to instruct your Lordship to take an opportunity of drawing the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the above statement as a proof that it is necessary, for the effectual suppression of the Cuba Slave Trade, that the Spanish Government should propose to the Cortes the enactment of a stringent law making the Slave Trade piracy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 418.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 6, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, &c., referring to his despatch of the 3rd October, a copy of which was transmitted to you in my despatch of the 15th ultimo,§ and stating that the measures taken by General

* No. 560.

† No. 525.

‡ No. 526.

§ No. 415.

Concha for the apprehension of the 500 Bozal negroes recently landed near Cabañas, had failed of success, owing to the connivance of the authorities of that place.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 419.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, translation of a note which I have just received from Señor Pacheco, communicating to me the efforts making by the Spanish Government to put an end to the Slave Trade, and stating, that since the 26th of August last, 421 Bozal negroes had been captured by the authorities of the Island of Cuba.

It is my intention this day to thank Her Catholic Majesty's Government for this announcement, and to express the satisfaction that will be felt by that of Her Majesty at these proofs of the energetic cooperation of the Governor of Cuba in the cause of humanity and in the accomplishment of national faith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 419.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 28, 1854.

SUBSEQUENTLY to the important seizures of Bozal negroes mentioned in my note of the 26th of August last, a further seizure of 116 Bozal negroes has taken place in the district of Trinidad (Island of Cuba), according to the information contained in a communication from the Captain-General of the aforesaid Colony, dated the 11th of July last, with the remarkable circumstance that, notwithstanding this result which relieved the functionaries of the districts wherein the seizures took place from responsibility, yet the superior authority of the island, who was indefatigable in his efforts for the extinction of the Slave Trade, acted with such activity and ability that he succeeded in detecting some facts whereupon he determined to suspend from their respective commands the Governors of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritu, and Bahía Honda, as also their legal counsellors and he directed that the proper trial should be instituted; in consequence whereof, Don Salvador Castro, Don Mariano Borrell, and Don Pedro Choperena, the agents and participators of the landings of slaves which had taken place, were imprisoned: the trial in question is still pending; but one of its immediate consequences, according to a report from the Captain-General dated the 4th August last, has been the seizure of 305 Bozal negroes, belonging to the cargo which was landed in the aforesaid district of Trinidad.

It appears, therefore, that subsequently to the seizures alluded to in my aforesaid note, 421 Bozal negroes more have fallen into the hands of the superior authority of the Island of Cuba; and I trust that the Government of which your Lordship is the worthy Representative, will learn with satisfaction the repeated proofs which both Her Majesty's Government and the Captain-General of Cuba are giving of the strenuous efforts they are making for the strict fulfilment of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1835.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) I. F. PACHECO.

No. 420.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 7, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, containing remarks on the inadequacy of the law, as at present administered in that island, for the prevention of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 421.

M. Gonzalez to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, December 6, 1854.

THE Undersigned has the honour to communicate to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon a note addressed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State to the Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty at the Court of Madrid, under date of the 28th November last, relative to fresh seizures of Bozal negroes in the Island of Cuba, and to the suspension from their respective posts of several Governors of districts who have appeared remiss in the fulfilment of their duties with regard to the repression of the Slave Trade. The substance of that note is as follows:—

“Since the occurrence of the important seizures of Bozal negroes referred to in my note of the 26th August last, 116 more have been captured in the jurisdiction of Trinidad, Island of Cuba, as appears from a letter from the Captain-General of that Colonial Province, dated the 11th of July last, with this circumstance worthy of remark,—that in spite of these results, which sheltered from responsibility the authorities in whose districts the seizures were effected, the superior authority of the island, indefatigable in his determination to extinguish the Traffic in Slaves, proceeded with such activity and judgment, that he succeeded in discovering certain facts which induced him to suspend from their respective commands the Governors of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritu, and Bahia Honda, the same measure being adopted with regard to their assessors, and the proper proceedings being instituted, Don Salvador Castor, Don Mariano Borrel, and Don Pedro Chopcrena, agents and participators in the landings referred to, were committed to prison.

“The proceedings instituted in the case in question have not yet terminated; however, as the Captain-General states, under date of the 4th of August last, a further capture has been effected of 305 Bozal negroes belonging to the landing in the above-mentioned jurisdiction of Trinidad.

“It follows then, that subsequently to the seizure to which my note before alluded to refers, 421 Bozal negroes have fallen into the power of the authorities of the Island of Cuba; and I flatter myself that the Government which your Excellency worthily represents, will see with satisfaction the repeated proofs which the Government of Her Majesty, as well as the Captain-General of the said island, are giving of the determination with which they endeavour to fulfil the stipulations of the Treaty of 1835.”

The Undersigned might have omitted this communication, as the Earl of Clarendon is doubtless already informed of the document in question; however, he does not consider it superfluous to repeat, on this occasion, the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government see the proceedings of the Captain-General of Cuba, which are so much in accordance with the views and wishes of Her Majesty's Government for at once putting an end to the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO GONZALEZ.

No. 422.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 9, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Spanish Foreign Office, stating that between the 11th of July and the 4th of August last the authorities of Cuba had taken possession of 421 newly-landed negroes. Your Lordship has been informed by my despatches of the 14th and 26th September, and by the despatches from Mr. Crawford of the 18th of July and 18th of August, copies of which were inclosed therein, that these acts of the Captain-General Pezuela were at the time communicated to, and duly appreciated by, Her Majesty's Government.

I approve of your intention to express to Her Catholic Majesty's Government the satisfaction afforded to Her Majesty's Government by those proofs of the energetic cooperation of the Governor of Cuba in the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I have to instruct your Lordship to add, whenever you may have a suitable opportunity of doing so, that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that this praiseworthy example will be followed by the present Captain-General of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 423

*The Earl of Clarendon to M. Gonzalez.**Foreign Office, December 12, 1855.*

THE Undersigned has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 6th instant by Don Antonio Gonzalez, communicating to the Undersigned a copy of a letter dated the 28th ultimo, in which the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs informed Lord Howden, that between the 11th of July and the 4th of August last, the Captain-General of Cuba had not only taken measures which led to the seizure of 421 newly-imported Africans, but had also suspended and brought to trial four Lieutenant-Governors, and had imprisoned three other persons, all of whom were more or less concerned in the landing of those Africans.

The Undersigned, in acknowledging with many thanks this obliging and important communication from Señor Gonzalez, begs leave to acquaint him that these vigorous proceedings of the Marquis de la Pezuela were at the time of their adoption duly reported to Her Majesty's Government by the British Consul-General at Havana, and were made known to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, who has informed the Undersigned, that on receipt of the above-mentioned letter from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, he was about to express to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty the satisfaction afforded to Her Majesty's Government by those proofs of the energetic cooperation of the Governor of Cuba in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned has to add, that he has hastened to approve this intention of Lord Howden, and has instructed him to take a suitable opportunity of stating to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that the praiseworthy example of the late Captain-General of Cuba will be followed by his successor.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 424.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 17.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith, translations of a note and its inclosures which I have just received from Señor Luzuriaga, acquainting me with the capture of 643 Bozal negroes, 103 of which formed the cargo of the schooner "*Peerless*," also captured, and 145 that of the "*Esperanza*," set fire to after the landing of the negroes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 No. 424.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the two inclosed copies of the communications from the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, dated the 3rd of October last, from which it appears that 643 Bozal negroes have been seized belonging, namely, 103 to the cargo of the schooner "*Peerless*," which was also captured, and 145 to the cargo of the schooner "*Esperanza*," which was burnt, after having landed her negroes.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) CLAUDO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 424.

The Captain-General of Cuba to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

IN virtue of the orders issued by this Government in fulfilment of those of Her Majesty, relative to the extinction of the Slave Trade, during the last days of my predecessor's command, the schooner "*Peerless*," and her cargo of 103 Bozal negroes, which had been landed near the mouth of the river Manimani, in the district of Laz Pozas and Bahia Honda, were seized. On the beach of Rosario another batch of 145 negroes were seized, belonging to the schooner "*Esperanza*," which after having landed her cargo on the coasts of the Island of Pines, was burnt. In this same Island of Pines a further seizure was made of 7 negroes belonging to the aforesaid vessel; and a further one of 242 negroes belonging to another expedition. Finally, the Second Alcalde of the city of Puerto Principe is now instituting judicial proceedings for the investigation of a landing of 150 Bozal negroes, which is reported to have taken place on the coast of Nuevitas, according to the communications which I have received from that functionary, dated the 21st and 23rd ultimo, and of these proceedings, as well as of those relative to the above-mentioned seizures, the investigations whereof are still going on, I will transmit to your Excellency in due time the proper copies, and I will send a duplicate thereof to the Audiencia for the continuation of the trials, in conformity with the penal law on this matter.

God preserve, &c.

Inclosure 3 in No. 424.

The Captain-General of Cuba to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

BESIDES the seizures of Bozal negroes which have taken place during the last days of my predecessor's command, and in addition to those I report to your Excellency under this day's date, another seizure of 73 Bozal negroes has just taken place on the coasts of Dominica, district of Quiebrahacha, of the jurisdiction of Mariel. From the summary investigation instituted, according to my instructions, by the Lieutenant-Governor, it appears that this functionary having heard that a suspicious vessel had been seen in those waters, he issued the proper orders for the seizure of the negroes in case that their landing should be attempted, and the result was the seizure of 61 negroes early in the morning of the 26th ultimo, and the subsequent capture of 12 more, who were very likely the remainder of that expedition, as is proved by the depositions of the negroes themselves, who declared that the vessel they came in is very small, and was in a leaky state; that when she sailed from Africa the crew was composed of 5 white men, two of whom died during the voyage, and that the original number of negroes on board was only 90, of whom 14 died. As to the vessel in question, there are reasons for believing, that her destination was not that of the coast where the landing took place, but that the bad state of her hull, and the want of provisions and water, compelled her to precipitate the landing of her cargo.

God preserve, &c.

No. 425.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, December 13, 1854.

MR. SOULE mentioned to me as a fact well known in the States, that there had been an arrangement between the English and Spanish Governments, and with General Pezuela, as their organ, to introduce as many free negroes as possible into the Island of Cuba, and that immense numbers had been introduced in this manner.

Mr. Soulé continued to say, that this arrangement had given a surprising impetus to the Slave Trade—a traffic odious to the inhabitants of the United States: for that when the slave-dealers were fortunate in landing their cargoes unseen, the negroes were sold as slaves; when the negroes were openly apprehended, the slave-dealers averred that they were introduced as colonists.

Mr. Soulé ended by declaring that this invasion of negroes was the cause producing the greatest excitement in the United States, and, being regarded as a measure of impending danger, it awakened a wide feeling that the annexation of Cuba was absolutely necessary for the peaceful existence of the Southern States of the Union.

As I think that this systematic introduction of negroes on an enormous scale by the advice and with the assistance of England could hardly have been organized without my knowledge, and even without my agency, and as, moreover, I do not believe that it exists, and as the assumption serves, or will serve, for an excuse on which an attack of Cuba by the filibustiers of the United States may turn, I think it expedient to submit to your Lordship whether it might not be well to take some steps at Washington in order to remove an idea which, on the measure of my knowledge, I confidently believe to be erroneous.

M. Comyn to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, December 20, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acquaint his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon of the following fresh captures of negroes made during the last days of the recent administration of General the Marquis de la Pezuela.

The schooner "*Peerless*," and her cargo of 103 Bozal negroes, landed near the mouth of the River Manimani, in the Department of Pozas, and in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda.

One hundred and five Bozal negroes, belonging to the schooner "*Esperanza*," which, having landed her cargo on the Isle of Pines, was set fire to. In this island were taken, moreover, 7 others coming from the "*Esperanza*," and 242 belonging to another expedition.

Seventy-three Bozal negroes on the coast of Dominica, in the Department of Quiebrahacha, and in the jurisdiction of Mariel.

The Undersigned fulfils with pleasure the orders which he has received from Her Majesty's Government, to communicate these facts to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

(Signed) JUAN F. COMYN.

No. 427.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 13th instant, stating that Mr. Soulé, the American Minister at Madrid, has mentioned to you as a fact well known in the United States, that an arrangement had been made between the British and Spanish Governments, and with General Pezuela as their organ, the object of which is to introduce as many free negroes as possible into the Island of Cuba, and that immense numbers had been introduced in this manner.

Your Lordship will find on referring to page 841, Class B of the Slave Trade Papers, laid before Parliament last session, that I had occasion in March last to instruct Her Majesty's Minister at Washington to contradict a similar insidious invention, respecting the alleged intentions of Great Britain with regard to Cuba, and I shall again write to Mr. Crampton upon the subject of your despatch of the 13th instant.

You will in the meantime inform Mr. Soulé, that there is not the shadow of a foundation for the statement which he has repeated to you; and that those who say that an arrangement has been made between the British and Spanish Governments to introduce as many free negroes as possible into Cuba, and that immense numbers have been introduced in that manner, are guilty of wilful and deliberate falsehood. It is equally untrue, as far as Her Majesty's Government is aware, that any slave-dealer has on any occasion, when slaves have been captured, averred that they were introduced as colonists.

Mr. Soulé appears to have been grievously practised upon by designing persons who have fabricated this idle story as a pretext for unlawful aggression against the territory of a friendly Power, but it may serve to undeceive him if he will consider in what quarter the free negroes exist from whence such immense numbers have been drawn for the colonization of Cuba, and whether it is likely that such negroes, being free, would voluntarily embark and permit themselves to be packed in a slave-ship in order to go to Cuba. But if such negroes are not free, and are purchased for the sake of sending them to Cuba, then Her Majesty's Government must have suddenly become wholesale slave-dealers; and Mr. Soulé, I apprehend, can hardly have brought himself to believe in that fact.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 428.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing copies of a letter and of its inclosures from Señor Luzuriaga, announcing that it appears by despatches of the 3rd of October from the Captain-General of Cuba that the authorities of that island had captured 643 newly-imported negroes.

I have to instruct your Lordship to thank Señor Luzuriaga for this communication, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have received it with much satisfaction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 429.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 27, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing a copy of a Decree published by General Concha on the 17th of November, the principal feature of which is, that it repeals the Bando issued by his predecessor on the 3rd of May last, whereby the Cuban authorities were empowered to enter estates suspected of harbouring newly imported Africans; to muster their slaves according to lists to be made for that purpose, and to liberate any fraudulently introduced Bozal negroes.

I inclose herewith a copy of the Bando of May 3,† and I have to instruct your Lordship to state to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that, although Her Majesty's Government do not doubt the sincerity and good intentions of General Concha, yet they think that the provisions contained in the Bando of the 3rd of May were well calculated to put down the Slave Trade, and that on the contrary the measures now substituted for those provisions by General Concha will be easily evaded by both planters and slave-dealers.

And you will say, that for these reasons Her Majesty's Government much regret that the Bando of the 3rd of May should have been revoked, and that they earnestly recommend that it should be again put in force.

Her Majesty's Government cannot suppose that there exists on the part of the Spanish Government any intention to repeal or nullify the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, 1854, which provided for the general registration of slaves in Cuba; I have however to instruct your Lordship to ask the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs what measures have been taken in order to carry that Decree into effect.

You will at the same time point out to his Excellency, that even if General Concha considers it necessary to abstain from following the newly imported Africans to the estates where they may be concealed, and from arresting them at once, yet the IInd and IIIrd Articles of the Bando of May 3, whereby it is provided that every year after the crop is gathered, lists of the slaves on every estate should be made out and delivered to the authorities, and that unregistered negroes should be liberated, seem to be drawn up in the spirit of the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, and to be well calculated to prevent the importation of slaves without violating any right of property.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 530.

† Inclosure in No. 475.

No. 430.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting the disembarkation at the Ensenada de Cochinos and at Punta Nuevas of three cargoes of Africans amounting in all to about 1,800.

And I have to instruct your Lordship to point out to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, that it is most probable that owing to the repeal of the Marquis de la Pezuela's Bando of the 3rd of May, all these Africans will have been safely introduced into the neighbouring estates, and that they have been made slaves beyond the reach of General Concha's Decree of the 17th of November.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 431.

*The Earl of Clarendon to M. Comyn.**Foreign Office, December 28, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 20th instant, by M. Comyn, &c., in which he announces the capture by the authorities of Cuba of 570 Bozal negroes; and the Undersigned begs to thank M. Comyn for this communication, which has been received with much satisfaction by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 432.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 6, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, December 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship, copy of a note which I addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of declaring the Slave Trade piracy.

Inclosure in No. 432.

*Lord Howden to Señor Luzuriaga.**Madrid, December 23, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour of addressing the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Her Catholic Majesty, on a subject which England takes greatly to heart, which is deeply interesting to the European reputation of Spain, and to which he earnestly invites the attentive consideration of Señor Luzuriaga and the Spanish Government.

* No. 532.

The Undersigned has been instructed by his Government to submit to Señor Luzuriaga a series of cases in which the endeavours of the Captain-General of Cuba—endeavours thoroughly honest in the estimation of the British Government—have been rendered nugatory by the inadequacy of the law in Cuba to repress the universally branded Traffic in Slaves. It is painful to England to see that good intentions are thus neutralized; it must be indescribably painful to an honest and energetic Captain-General to find that he is unable to carry out his purposes.

The Undersigned, who from the first moment of his arrival here has endeavoured to avoid or to allay every cause of irritation between his Legation and the Department now so worthily occupied by your Excellency, pauses even in the execution of his duty and forbears to send to your Excellency any matter belonging to an irritating subject, one which he is anxious to keep back so long as any reasonable hope exists that all repetition of past recriminations may be avoided.

The Undersigned, encouraged by the new era opened for Spain, full of confidence in the liberal, enlightened, and humane members of the present Government, men already known to Europe and who would fitly associate their name and their fame with posterity to a great and good act.

The Undersigned speaking as the servant of the British people to the servant of another people which may one day be as prosperous and as free, earnestly, anxiously asks the liberal Government of that regenerated people to declare the Slave Trade piracy.

The Undersigned considers that it would be most unbecoming in him to point out to the superior intelligence of Señor Luzuriaga the rare facilities of the moment, when the Cortes themselves have openly expressed their abhorrence of slavery, and when the prevention of the iniquitous trade can be twisted into no relation whatever with the existing rights of property, a subject on which the deputies of the nation are naturally and justly susceptible, but the Undersigned is unalterably convinced that no cordial and permanent and indissoluble good understanding can exist between Spain and England, so long as the law in Cuba remains as it is; and it is on this ground that he addresses Señor Luzuriaga in the language of the sincerest friendship. He wishes most particularly to state in conclusion, that if Señor Luzuriaga and the Spanish Government agree to a demand which would fill England with joy from one end of it to the other, the Undersigned requests to be allowed immediately to withdraw this note, that not a vestige may remain of his having appeared to urge upon Señor Luzuriaga so grand, and brilliant, and happy a measure; and that the entire honour, as most surely due, should be awarded by the whole world, solely to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, and to the illustrious Minister who initiated so righteous, so holy an act.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 433.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 6, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th of December, I transmit to your Lordship herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, respecting the landing of Bozal negroes in different parts of that island, and the insufficiency of the measures taken there for the prevention of such importations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 536.

No. 434.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 8, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of 15th of November last,* respecting the case of Mary Gordon, a native of St. Kitts, who is held in slavery by a planter of the Island of Porto Rico, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Consul Lindegren, inclosing copies of further correspondence upon this case, which has passed between him and the Governor of Porto Rico, and I have to instruct your Lordship to call the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the arguments contained in Mr. Lindegren's letter to the Governor of the 30th of November last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 435.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 15, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch,‡ and of its inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico, respecting a remonstrance which he has addressed to the Mexican Government, in order, if possible to defeat a disgraceful scheme which it appears had been agreed upon between a Mexican officer named Jimenez, and the house of Goicoria and Co., of Havana, who had engaged to furnish a body of two hundred armed men and officers, in order to assist in making war upon the Indians of Yucatan, on condition that Messrs. Goicoria and Co. should be enabled to send to Cuba, for their use, any prisoners taken in that war, on payment of the sum of fifteen dollars for each prisoner.

I have directed Mr. Doyle to inform the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have entirely approved the steps taken by him to counteract this project; and I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, the substance of Mr. Doyle's despatch, and to express to his Excellency the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will immediately send orders to the Captain-General of Cuba, directing him to use every exertion in his power in order to prevent the execution of such a nefarious undertaking, which, if allowed to be carried out in Cuba, can only lead to a wholesale extermination of the unfortunate aboriginal race of Yucatan.

You will at the same time observe to Señor Luzuriaga, that if the inhabitants of Cuba should be permitted with impunity to carry on a private warfare of this kind in a neighbouring State, the freebooters of the United States may point to such an example as justifying their projects for the invasion of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 416.

† No. 362.

‡ No. 264.

No. 436.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 18.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, January 12, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship translation of a note I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of declaring the penalties of slave-dealing to be similar to those for piracy. Your Lordship will see that no step has hitherto been made so far. I also adjoin copy of my answer, which I trust will meet your Lordship's approbation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 436.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Madrid, January 8, 1855.

THE Undersigned, Her Catholic Majesty's First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has made himself acquainted with, and has communicated to Her Majesty's Government, the note which, under date of the 23rd of December last, has been addressed to him by his Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty, requesting that the Slave Trade be declared piracy.

The importance which Great Britain attaches to this declaration, the persistency with which she has solicited it, at different epochs, from the Queen's Government, the feelings of friendship and consideration towards Spain so warmly expressed in Lord Howden's note, and even the considerate proposition contained at the end of that note—all these circumstances would increase, were it possible, the constant desire by which Her Majesty's Government is animated of complying with the wishes of that of Her Britannic Majesty, with which it is united by such close ties as those of old friendship, of political sympathy, and of common interest.

But the enlightened patriotism of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister will undoubtedly take into consideration that, whenever a Government finds itself invited to make so important an alteration in its legislation, it is its unavoidable duty, before so doing, to acquire the certain conviction that such alteration will not essentially injure legitimate and respectable interests.

The conviction that the declaration of the Slave Trade to be piracy would cause a pernicious effect in the Spanish Antilles, and perhaps the fear that this declaration might possibly not be adjusted to the principles by which the punishment of crimes is regulated, according to the different nature thereof, made the preceding Cabinets shrink from adopting the measure. The Cabinet which is now vested with Her Majesty's confidence, prompted by the most sincere and ardent wish of seeing its relations with the Government of Great Britain on a close and cordial footing, is willing to examine again whether the aforesaid conviction was a well-founded one. The Spanish Cabinet does, therefore, not reject the request set forth by Her Britannic Majesty's Government; it only defers its decision thereupon until it has collected the necessary data in order to ascertain whether it will be possible for it to make the declaration in question, without putting in jeopardy the sacred interests which are intrusted to its loyalty.

A delay founded upon such a consideration, cannot but meet with the approval of Her Britannic Majesty's Government. The Government of Her Catholic Majesty, therefore, confidently trusts that the ties by which both Governments are united, so far from being weakened, in the meantime will acquire, if possible, greater strength and solidity.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLAUDO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 436.

Lord Howden to Señor Luzuriaga.

Madrid, January 11, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., presents his respectful and cordial compliments to Her Catholic Majesty's First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and loses not a moment in acknowledging the receipt, this evening, of his Excellency's note of the 8th instant, and of thanking him sincerely for it. The Undersigned does not hesitate to say, that in the many years he has been at this Court, he has not received a communication from Her Catholic Majesty's Foreign Office which has given him more pleasure.

Señor Luzuriaga rightly judges that neither the Undersigned nor the Government which employs him, can have the slightest wish to urge the Spanish people, for whom both have so sincere a respect and affection, to do any thing precipitately that can hurt their honour, their safety, or their interest. The Undersigned, speaking in the name of his Government, and fully trusting in the friendly assurances of Señor Luzuriaga, will wait with patience, because he waits with confidence, and he willingly leaves in the hands of his Excellency the entreaty of England, the cause of humanity, and the approbation of the world.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 437.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a printed translation of the Decree which was issued by the Queen of Portugal, on the 25th of July, 1842, declaring the crime of Trading in Slaves to be piracy in the kingdom of Portugal and its dominions.

I inclose also a translation of the Decree of the 10th of December, 1836, therein referred to, and I have to instruct your Lordship in any way you may think expedient to call the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Decree of July 1842, and to express a hope that the Spanish Government will not remain behind the Portuguese Government in a measure of humanity and justice.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 438.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to Mr. Otway's despatch of the 4th July, 1854, and to previous correspondence respecting the Spanish vessel "*Paquita*," which sailed from the Havana for London, in April last year, with the intention, as was supposed, of being eventually employed in the Slave Trade, I have to inform your Lordship that I requested the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury to instruct the Board of Customs to cause the proceedings of that vessel to be watched on her arrival in the port of London; and I have now been informed by the Lords of the Treasury that the Commissioners of Customs have reported that the "*Paquita*" sailed from London for Liverpool on the 18th of August

last, and that she was on the 29th ultimo about to leave the Mersey for Manilla with a legal cargo, and that the Customs authorities of Liverpool had reported that there was no reason to suppose that she is at present about to be employed in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 439.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing a Decree which was published on the 19th of December by the Captain-General of Cuba, directing that the owners of all the slaves in the island are to provide their slaves with pass-tickets, which are to be issued and registered by the proper authorities, and to be renewed half-yearly.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 440.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th instant, and I have to inform you that I approve the note which you addressed to Señor Luzuriaga in reply to his communication of the 8th instant, on the subject of the measures proposed to be taken by the Spanish Government for the purpose of applying to the Slave Trade the penalties attached to the crime of piracy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 441.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 2, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th of December last, respecting the statement made by Mr. Soulé as to the belief entertained by the people of the United States that an arrangement had been concluded between the British and Spanish Governments for the introduction of free negroes in large numbers into Cuba; I transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, inclosing a copy of a note which he had addressed to the United States Secretary of State on this subject, in conformity with instructions which I had transmitted to him to that effect.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 538.

† No. 627.

No. 442.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 24, 1855.

REFERRING to your Lordship's despatch of the 13th February of last year,* and to previous correspondence respecting delay in furnishing the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana with the lists of the emancipados and their liberation, I have the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from Señor Luzuriaga, in which his Excellency states that the engagements of Her Catholic Majesty's Government in these matters have been fulfilled.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 442.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 18, 1855.

UNDER date of the 17th February of last year, a communication was addressed to the General Colonial Office, inclosing copy of your Lordship's note, dated the 30th December, 1853, relative to the lists of emancipated negroes in the Island of Cuba, which the British Government wished should be furnished by the Captain-General of that colonial possession to the Mixed Commission established at the Havana.

The aforesaid Colonial Office consequently applied to the abovementioned functionary for the proper information upon the subject, and the latter has replied stating that the emancipated negroes, and those who are under contract as free labourers, having been already manumitted in conformity with the regulations of the 1st January last, wherein the rights of the liberated slaves are established, the stipulations contained in the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, which your Lordship invokes in your aforesaid note of December 30, 1853, were consequently duly fulfilled.

Moreover, in another note of the 21st of February of last year, your Lordship called the attention of Her Catholic Majesty's Government to the necessity of the aforesaid Mixed Commission being furnished with a list of all the emancipados who might have received their letters of freedom by virtue of the regulations of January 1st, above alluded to. This document must be in possession of the British Government since it was transmitted to Lord Clarendon by Her Catholic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in London, in his note of the 21st of March last.

I therefore consider the two points referred to in your Lordship's notes of the 30th December, 1853, and of 21st February last, as being thus settled to the satisfaction of the Government of which your Lordship is the worthy Representative.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CLAUDIO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

No. 443.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 7, 1855.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 15th ultimo, I lost no time in communicating to Señor Luzuriaga the substance of Mr. Doyle's despatch to your Lordship relative to a scheme which it would appear had been agreed upon between a Mexican officer named

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 497.

Jimenez and the house of Goicoria and Co. of the Havana, who had engaged to furnish a body of 200 armed men and officers in order to assist in making war upon the Indians of Yucatan, on condition that Messrs. Goicoria and Co. should be enabled to send to Cuba for their use any prisoners taken in that war on payment of the sum of 15 dollars for each prisoner.

I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship translation of the answer which I have received from his Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 443.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 1, 1855.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's note dated the 22nd of January last, relative to the contract which is supposed to have been concluded between the Mexican Government and the house of Messrs. Goicoria and Co. of the Havana, whereby the latter seems to have engaged to furnish a body of 200 armed men, in order to make war against the Indians of Yucatan, on condition that the Yucatanese prisoners are to be placed at the disposal of Messrs. Goicoria and Co. by whom they are to be transported to the Island of Cuba, for the purpose of making them work there to the profit of the house in question.

Inclosed in your note your Lordship has sent to me an extract from a despatch from Mr. Doyle, the British Representative at Mexico, relative to the same subject; and after requesting that the proper orders be communicated to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, directing him to prevent the execution of the aforesaid undertaking within the territory under his command, your Lordship adds, that if Her Majesty's Government should permit the inhabitants of Cuba to carry on a private warfare in a neighbouring State, such a fact would justify the expeditions of the freebooters against that Colonial Possession.

Before proceeding to reply to the essential part of your Lordship's note, I cannot abstain from drawing your Lordship's attention upon the little or rather no analogy at all which exists between expeditions of the aforesaid kind and the case which you pretend to set forth as an example which would justify them.

The undertaking of the house of Goicoria, supposing the case of its existence and of its being carried into effect, would have for its principal basis the express consent of the Mexican Government, which, in the free exercise of its administrative power, would thus appear as the contractor of 200 armed men for the account of a mercantile firm, as an auxiliary force, to assist in subjecting to obedience a portion of the natives of the country,—the Yucatan Indians,—who are in open rebellion against the chief of the State; whilst the piratical expeditions against the Island of Cuba have been acts perpetrated against the sacred rights of sovereignty, which Her Catholic Majesty possesses over her dominions—acts which the Government resisted by main force, and finally, acts tending to disturb order and public tranquillity in the aforesaid Colonial Possession.

This most remarkable difference between the two above mentioned cases will certainly not escape your Lordship's well known good sense; and I entertain no doubt that you will clearly perceive the inefficiency and the inapplicability to the present case of the argument contained in the latter part of your note; wherefore, omitting further observations, I proceed to reply to the principal point.

According to the aforesaid extract from Mr. Doyle's despatch, the terms of the contract denounced by your Lordship are not the same as those supposed by your Lordship in your note, since the proposal of the house of Goicoria, which is said to have been accepted by the Mexican Government, is confined to the fact of the house in question taking the engagement of paying to the Treasury of the Republic, 20,000 dollars in two instalments, and receiving, on

payment of the first 10,000 dollars, the Yucatanese prisoners, who may be fit for labour, existing in possession of the Mexican Government, and subsequently, on payment of the other 10,000 dollars, receiving the other prisoners who may have been taken since the payment of the first instalment.

The origin of this proposition, which, even with the aforesaid modification, is a reprehensible one, in the opinion of Her Catholic Majesty's Government, was, as appears from Mr. Doyle's despatch itself, the failure of the efforts made by a certain Don Tito Vecino, of whom Colonel Jimenez, the author of the aforesaid proposal, is supposed to be the agent, for the purpose of inducing the Indians of Yucatan to enter into a voluntary contract as colonists for the Island of Cuba, according to the conditions of a concession granted to that effect to the aforesaid Señor Vecino.

Her Catholic Majesty's Government, which was, in due time, informed of this concession, when it was only relative to voluntary contracts on the part of the Indians of Yucatan, anticipating itself, to a certain degree, the wishes now expressed by the British Government on this subject, and with the object of clearly determining what would be the position of the Indians of Yucatan in the Island of Cuba, made an official declaration to the Representative of the Mexican Republic at this Court, stating that the Indians in question would be subjected to the general regulations issued for the colonists in the Royal Order of the 22nd March, 1854, published in the official "Gazette" No. 468.

It appears, according to Mr. Doyle's statement, that the original concession obtained by Vecino, has been subsequently converted into a contract, which is repulsive to every humane feeling and tending to the destruction of the Yucatanese race; but Her Majesty's Government, although it reprobates such a scheme as much as it is reprobated by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, possesses no other means of action, to prevent its execution, than those emanating from the aforesaid Royal Order relative to the colonists in Cuba. According to this Royal Order, it is required, for the importation of colonists into that island, that such colonists shall exhibit the contract they may have made with the importer; and certainly, it will not be possible for any contractor who may have seized a certain number of Yucatan Indians by force of arms, or purchased them for a sum of money, without their own consent, to fulfil the above-mentioned indispensable legal requisite. Moreover, the Yucatan Indians, as well as any other colonists, from wheresoever they may come, from the moment they tread on the territory of Cuba, are placed under the protection of the laws which prohibit their being reduced to slavery; and thus, without any especial measures being required, it becomes impossible that schemes like the one which has alarmed the philanthropical feelings of Great Britain, can be carried into effect in the dominions of Her Catholic Majesty.

Beyond these limits, I do not consider it possible for Her Majesty's Government to make an efficient opposition to the execution of the enterprise referred to by your Lordship, because, if the Government of Mexico is willing to enter into an illicit traffic, in regard to the Yucatanese prisoners, the Government of Spain is not bound to interfere in it, since there is no international stipulation or compact whatever which authorizes the latter to do so; nor is it possible for it to prevent Spanish subjects from taking part, with the express consent of the chief of the Mexican Republic, in a war which he wages, within his own territory, against individuals declared by him to be rebels.

As a precautionary measure, however, a transcript of your Lordship's note and of its inclosure, will be sent to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, in order that he may watch with special care over the rigorous fulfilment of the regulations relative to the admission of colonists from Yucatan; and I trust that your Lordship being fully convinced of the liberal and humane principles which Her Majesty's Government professes, will entertain no doubt of its decision to oppose itself, as far as it is in its power, to all acts which are not consistent with those principles.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

CLAUDO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA

No. 444.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I transmit to your Lordship herewith for your information, a copy of a further despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba on the question of the Slave Trade being declared piracy by the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 445.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 24th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note from Señor Luzuriaga, in which his Excellency states, that a proper list of the emancipados in Cuba has been furnished to Her Majesty's Government, I have to state to you that the document alluded to by Señor Luzuriaga as having been sent in by M. Comyn was not that which was asked for in my despatch of the 13th February, 1854, as that document was merely a rough account of the number of slaves emancipated, and does not answer the description contained in Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of June 28th, 1835. What is required is, that the Captain-General of Cuba should furnish the Mixed Commission Court at the Havana with half-yearly returns of the emancipados, in accordance with those Articles.

I transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch† on this subject from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, from which it appears that the Captain-General has promised that the lists required shall be furnished regularly; and if this promise shall be punctually fulfilled, Her Majesty's Government will have no further request to make on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 446.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, instructing him to make some observations to the Captain-General respecting the large number of slaves which have been imported into Cuba during last year.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 546.

† See Class A, No. 40.

‡ No. 548.

No. 447.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing a Decree issued by the Captain-General, on the 28th of December last, prolonging the terms of service during which the emancipados are bound to work as apprentices before they are entirely liberated.

I inclose, also, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have addressed to Mr. Crawford, instructing him to make a representation to the Captain-General respecting this Decree.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 448.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 9, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th ultimo,‡ inclosing a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba respecting the condition of the emancipados in that island, I transmit to you a copy of a further despatch§ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, upon the same subject, from which your Lordship will perceive, that under the regulations established by the Spanish authorities, the emancipados are not only allotted for certain periods of service, but are paid at a rate much inferior to the wages they would be able to earn as free labourers, and from which small allowance a large proportion is deducted as a contribution to the fund of the emancipados.

As an illustration of the manner in which the so-called "emancipated" negroes are treated in Cuba, I also transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, giving the history of a negress named Angela, who applied to him for his assistance to obtain her entire freedom.

It appears from Mr. Backhouse's statement, that this poor woman ought to have been freed in 1848, after having served a period of five years after her capture; but that after a further servitude of upwards of five years more, she was again assigned for another year.

And I have to instruct your Lordship to call the attention of the Spanish Government to the condition and prospects of the emancipados, and to represent it to them as a matter well worthy of their humane and favourable consideration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 449.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 28.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 23, 1855.

IN a session of the Cortes of the 8th instant, and on the occasion of a question being addressed to Señor Luzuriaga, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the circumstances attending the late conspiracy in Cuba, his Excellency made the accompanying declaration respecting slavery in that island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

* No. 544.

† No. 549.

‡ No. 447.

§ No. 550.

|| See Class A, No. 41.

Inclosure in No. 449.

*Extract of Señor Luzuriaga's speech in the Session of the Cortes of
March 8, 1855.*

(Translation.)

THE gentlemen deputies ought always to bear in mind, that in every question connected with the Island of Cuba, there is invariably a latent cause of impulsion—a cause which we all overlook, and of which we all may eventually become innocent instruments, and which, therefore, requires, on our part, great circumspection and reserve whenever we are to deliberate on matters connected with that island—the circumstance which may, at present, give rise to some apprehension, is the spirit of annexation to a neighbouring State, by which a few turbulent persons are animated. But, gentlemen, this tendency would not be a dangerous one if it were not associated with another idea.—The idea of annexation is always coupled with the conviction, that by this means the continuation of slavery in the Island of Cuba will be secured. Let this circumstance not be lost sight of, nor that all landed and agricultural property, which constitute the only and great source of wealth of that island, depends on the preservation of slavery, and that, consequently, whenever this principle appears to be endangered, the landed proprietors become alarmed, and naturally feel inclined to side with those who offer a greater security to this principle.

Gentlemen, whenever the question of slavery is mooted, the feelings of philanthropy and other considerations which are inseparable from this idea, become naturally excited. But it is necessary to bear in mind one thing, namely, that the Island of Cuba can only cease from being an integral portion of the Spanish territory by one of the two following means—either by emancipation, which would be the thorough extermination of the white race, that is to say, of all Spaniards and natives of the island of European origin, or by annexation; and, by this latter means, those persons who hold slavery in the greatest abhorrence, would not succeed in seeing it abolished. Her Majesty's Government is, therefore, determined to maintain the Treaties which prohibit the Slave Trade, and to execute them with fidelity and sincerity; and it can assert, that they are and will continue to be faithfully and rigorously executed. But at the same time, gentlemen, Her Majesty's Government entertains the intimate conviction that slavery is a necessity and an indispensable condition for the existence of landed property in the Island of Cuba; and it has only anticipated the feelings of the gentlemen deputies by giving to the natives and landed proprietors of the island in question, the assurance that no one has the intention of attacking that principle.

No. 450.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 28.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, translations of two notes which I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; the one relative to the capture of 257 Bozal negroes in the district of the Island of Pines, and of 23 sailors who had been mixed up in this transaction; and the other, also relative to the capture, in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, of 263 coloured Africans, and the arrest of the Sub-delegate of Marine, Don Ramon Clavel y Samante, who had rendered himself suspicious to the Spanish authorities for his conduct on the occasion.

I have addressed a note to Señor Luzuriaga, in reply, thanking his Excellency for these communications, and stating, that I felt convinced that Her Majesty's Government would learn with much satisfaction these proofs of the zeal and good faith with which that of Spain is determined to fulfil its Treaty stipulations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 450.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 9, 1855.

THE Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has transmitted to this office, through the General Colonial Office, a legalized copy of the summary investigation instituted by the Military Commander of the Island of Pines, in consequence of a disembarkation of Bozal negroes which had taken place in that district; and from these papers it appears that 257 of the aforesaid negroes have been seized and declared to be free by the above-mentioned Superior Authority of the Island of Cuba, and that twenty-three sailors who seemed to be implicated in the landing of those negroes have been arrested.

I hasten, therefore, to communicate to your Lordship this new proof of the zeal of the authorities of the Island of Cuba, trusting that it will be duly appreciated by the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CLAUDIO ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 450.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 9, 1855.

THE General Colonial Office has transmitted to this office four legalized copies of an equal number of summary investigations instituted in consequence of several seizures of Bozal negroes which have taken place in the district of Bahia-Honda (Island of Cuba); and, from these papers it appears, that the number of coloured Africans who have been captured by the Spanish authorities amounts to 263, and that the Sub-delegate of Marine, Don Ramon Clavel y Samante, has been arrested on suspicion of remissness in the fulfilment of his duty in regard to the landings of the aforesaid Africans.

The negroes captured in the above-mentioned district have been declared to be free, and placed under the care of persons who will teach them the principles of the Christian Religion, and every one of the other stipulations concerning them, contained in the Treaty of 1835, will be strictly fulfilled.

On bringing these facts to your Lordship's knowledge I trust, that you will communicate them to the British Government, calling its attention to the activity and perseverance with which the Slave Trade is now persecuted.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) CLAUDIO ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

No. 451.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th of January and to your Lordship's of the 7th of February, respecting the transportation of Indian prisoners from Yucatan to Cuba, I transmit herewith copies of further despatches* relative to this affair which I have received from Mr. Crawford and Mr. Doyle, by which you will learn, that at the beginning of February, 135 of these Indians had arrived at Havana, and had been admitted by the Captain-General as free colonists under the Spanish law of colonization of the 22nd of March, 1854.

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate the substance of the inclosed papers to the Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to

* Nos. 271, 551, and 554.

call his Excellency's attention more particularly to the terms of the Contract No. 1 between the Mexican Government and Colonel Jimenez, and also to the answer returned by the Governor of Yucatan on the 16th of December last to a petition from twenty-nine of the Indians in question, which documents are inclosed in Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 3rd ultimo, and the contents of which clearly prove that these men were prisoners and not voluntary emigrants.

You will point out, that consequently the Spanish law of 1854, respecting the introduction of colonists into Cuba, has been openly violated with regard to the Indians in question; and you will state, that the frauds which have been committed in this case call urgently for the interference of the Spanish Government in order to put an end to this system of forced emigration from Yucatan.

I am &c.,
(Signed) CLARENDON.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana*.

No. 452.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

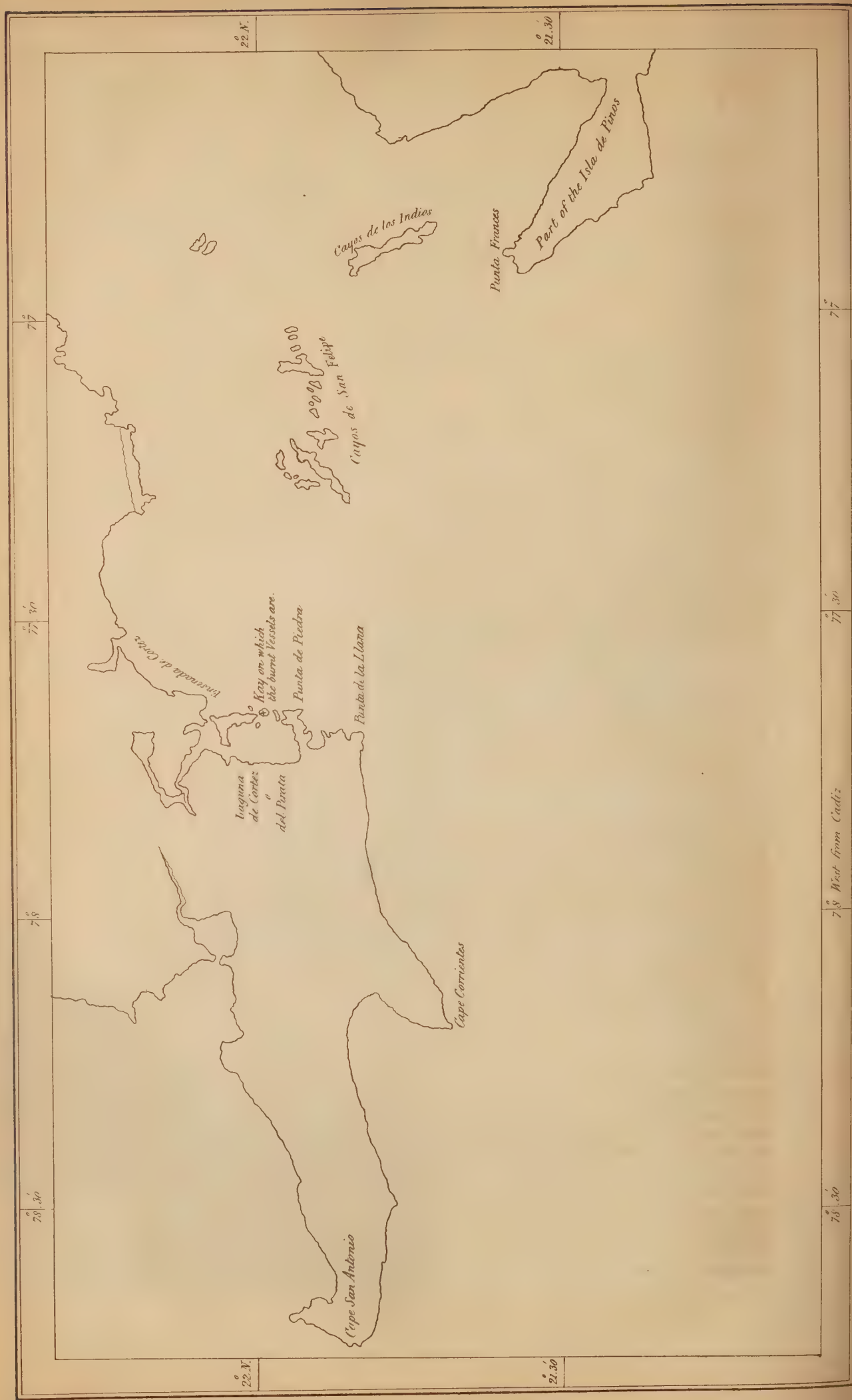
Havana, March 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 14th of January,* transmitting to me a copy of the answer returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, to two notes which, in pursuance of your Lordship's directions, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid addressed to M. Calderon de la Barca, on the 23rd of October and on the 1st of November, respecting the landings of Bozal negroes. In obedience to your Lordship's direction, I have made further inquiry into these three cases, and I have now the honour of reporting to your Lordship, that I am quite satisfied of the fact that the landings at all three places did occur at the time I denounced them to the then Captain-General; the only difference being, with respect to the slaver which effected the disembarkation at the Ensenada de Cortez, that instead of her burning a-ground near to the remains of the other two (the "*Jasper*" and the "*Nueva Empresa*"), she drifted away and sank out at sea; but the Ensenada de Cortez having been examined by Her Majesty's officers, Commander Napier has pointed out to me the place where the two wrecks are lying still, but now hardly visible above water, and I am enabled to lay before your Lordship a sketch of their position, situated not a mile from the main land of that part of the island.

I hope that my qualification of such acts in denouncing them to the Captain-General may not be considered as unwarrantable, when it is borne in mind that there has been such repeated violation of the law at the same place, and that four successive commissions which were dispatched for the purpose of investigating the circumstances had not been able to discover any traces of the slaves which had been landed, nor evidence to prove the connivance of the authorities at such audacious acts of the slavers, and had it not been for the discovery of the crew of the "*Jasper*," and that of the twenty men belonging to the "*Nueva Empresa*," who were accidentally fallen in with and captured by the officer who was sent in charge of the six missing sailors of the "*Jasper*," the efforts of these repeated commissions might have passed for proof that no such expeditions of slaves had ever arrived at the Ensenada de Cortez, and the connivance of the local authorities could not well have been called in question. I am, however, enabled to prove by the declaration of two of the British subjects who were on board the "*Jasper*," which I have now the honour of transmitting to your Lordship, that there was most complete connivance of the authorities and inhabitants of that part of the island; in the first place with regard to the landing of the negroes, and in the second place, for the concealment of the sailors for so long a time; so that it is not to be wondered at with such a combination of infamy, that the ends of justice were defeated as they were, and that all the parties have gone unpunished.

The negroes from the "*Jasper*" were landed by boats, or launches from the shore, as well as by the ship's launch; there were two white men in the shore boats, the rest were negroes; the ship was burnt within a mile of the shore, the Englishmen and Americans belonging to the crew were landed and taken to a place at some distance to the westward, from thence to an

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 635.



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estate inland, afterwards to one of the cays, and ultimately they were brought across the island (six of them) on horseback to the north side.

I need not observe to your Lordship that all this could not be done without connivance of the authorities, in such a country; and besides the British and American seamen's declaration to which I have now alluded, I would refer M. Calderon de la Barca to the whole proceedings carried out before the Royal Audiencia upon the trial of Lieutenant-Governor Ayllon and these sailors, to which I had occasion to refer in my despatch of the 5th ultimo, an extract from which I beg leave here to transcribe.

In answer to your Lordship's direction that I should state whether I wrote to the Captain-General, "I knew that the remains of the burnt vessel were visible"—I beg leave to inclose herewith a copy of my letter to the Captain-General of the 30th of September, in which I stated to his Excellency, not that I knew it, but that the three burnt hulks may now "be found near to each other," &c.; but, as I have now stated to your Lordship, the last of the three having floated off from the shoal and drifted out to sea, the remains of two are only to be found at this time, and they are gradually disappearing, as Commander Napier informs me, by the usual process of decay and the plunder of the wreckers and neighbouring inhabitants.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 452.

[Sketch.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 452.

Declarations.

Declarations of Charles William Hersey and Charles Robinson, British subjects, who were sailors on board the American barque "*Jasper*," made at Havana, before Joseph Tucker Crawford, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul-General.

CHARLES WILLIAM HERSEY a native of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, and Charles Robinson, a native of Canada, declared that they were on board the barque "*Jasper*," that they shipped at New York under the belief that she was going on a lawful voyage to the coast of Africa and back to New York, the voyage not to exceed eleven months. Arrived first at Elmina and went from thence to Cape Coast, trading their rum, tobacco, &c., for ivory; from Cape Coast they went to Elmina (Chica), where they discharged the most of the cargo, and a supercargo left them. There were three of them on board when they left New York. From Little Elmina they went to a place about twenty-four hours run to the southward, the name of which they do not know, and about three miles to the southward of that the slaves were brought alongside at sundown in Canoes, when Captain Townshend called the crew into the Cabin and told them, that he had sold the vessel three days previously, and that he could not protect them any longer, he asked them what they were going to do, that if they went on shore they would surely be killed by the natives; he told them, that if they were taken by a man-of-war they had only to say that they were passengers, and they would be all free. Deponents and the others did not know what to do, and in less than two hours the Spaniards slipped the vessel's cable, and they found themselves at sea. They did not see any cruiser or other vessel till they arrived at the south side of this island, at a place called Punta de Cartas, where they took a pilot to take them further to the westward. Running to the westward the ship grounded on a shoal, which lays about a mile from the main land, where she stuck, and they tried for three days to get her off.

The negroes (about 450 to the best of deponents knowledge), were all taken out by boats from the shore and the ship's launch, the first morning

after the ship got on shore ; the boats from the shore had two white men in them, the rest were negroes. The Spanish Captain went on shore and got the boats which came for the slaves ; do not know his name, but heard him called Don José ; he went away with the negroes and they did not see him for about a fortnight ; he then came to them at the place where they were concealed, and told them, that he was going to have them sent to Havana, after which he went away and they saw no more of him.

The crew (Americans and English) were taken from the vessel to the shore on the third night after she grounded, and before they reached the shore they set the ship on fire, it was the Spaniards from the shore who set fire to the ship ; do not know by whose orders she was burnt ; these English and Americans were told that they must leave the ship because a steamer was expected that would capture them, so they must keep out of the way till she was gone, when they would go back ; but there was no ship to go to the next day for she was burnt in the meantime in the manner described.

These deponents were taken from the place where they were landed on the main land of the island, to a place about three leagues further on to the westward to a fishing place where they were lodged, they were accompanied by the Spanish mate whose name was Ignacio ; they were at that place for about fourteen days ; after which they were conducted to a plantation inland, where they were kept for about two months, and they were then taken to Cayo San Felipe for nineteen days when they were re-conducted to the same plantation inland for about a month, and then on horses they crossed the island to the north side on to a plantation, at that place they got a boat and came inside the Colorados towards Havana, when they were taken at a place called Portuguese point, and brought prisoners to Havana.

The twenty men who were captured about three leagues from where they, Hersey and his companions, were hidden at the plantation on the south side of the island belonged to a schooner also a slaver which landed her cargo after those of the "*Jasper*," and that schooner was burnt close beside the "*Jasper*," where the wrecks of both vessels are still to be seen.

Havana, March 4, 1854.

(Signed) CHARLES ^{his} ~~X~~ ROBINSON.
mark
CHARLES W. ^{his} ~~X~~ HERSEY.
mark

Inclosure 3 in No. 452.

Extract from the Proceedings against the parties implicated in the disembarkation of Bozal negroes in the jurisdiction of Pinar del Rio, Island of Cuba.

(Translation.)

June 1853.

THE Fiscal, to whom the antecedents in this case were passed, states, that had the circumstances been made known opportunely to the Audiencia, in all probability the steps which were taken for the correction of this crime would not have been fruitless ; but nearly two months having been allowed to pass, it will not be so easy to obtain a useful result.

This opinion was given upon the case at the time the Captain-General thought proper, after dealing with it himself for two months, to pass it to the Royal Audiencia, and after a commission from the Royal Audiencia had been sent to Bailen and had failed to obtain proofs of any kind, as the Fiscal had predicted. That learned authority delivers his judgment as follows on the 15th of October last :—

I do not consider that either the superior authorities or their subalterns are free of all suspicion. It is true, he says, that if so much vigilance had been constantly exercised, either the disembarkation would not have taken place, or it would have come to the knowledge of the superior authorities sufficiently soon that measures might have been taken for the apprehension of the negroes and the guilty parties.

His Honour cannot free Colonel Ayllon from the suspicions which appear against him, but as the proofs are not sufficient his Honour can ask no

more that for his negligence these proceedings shall be suspended with a severe reprehension, and the payment of part of the costs, which shall be recovered from him equally as from Don José Perez (the Captain Pedaneo), in whose district the negroes were landed.

But, notwithstanding this opinion of the Fiscal, the Royal Audiencia, first division, composed of the judges Buelta, Majoorata, and Harqua, suspended the proceedings against Colonel Ayllon and Don José Perez, without any punishment of them whatever.

Inclosure 4 in No. 452.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Sir,

Havana, September 30, 1853.

I REGRET exceedingly that it should again have become my disagreeable duty to complain to your Excellency, and, in obedience to the instructions which I have from Her Majesty's Government, to remonstrate seriously against such repeated importations of Bozal negroes into this island, contrary to the provisions of the existing Treaties for suppression of the Slave Trade.

On Thursday the 15th instant, a schooner whose name I have not ascertained, arrived at the Cayo de Cortez, in the Ensenada of that name, with 180 Bozal negroes, and immediately proceeded to land them. These negroes were forthwith taken to the hacienda "Grifa" belonging to Don Luis Pimienta, from whence they have been selling quite publicly by the consignee of the cargo, Don Pio Diaz.

The schooner, which it appears belonged to a merchant whose name is Calvo, was burnt in the same manner as the two former slave-vessels at the Cayos, and the three burnt hulks may now be found near to each other, the group forming a most insulting memento of the disregard which has been shown to the law in these instances.

The crew of the schooner which brought these slaves, I am enabled to inform your Excellency, were embarked on Saturday the 17th instant, on board of the coasting steamer "Concha," and were brought to Batabano accompanied by a person known at Punta de Cartas, where the crew embarked on board the "Concha," as the Baron Pimienta, a son of Don Luis, who came for the purpose of receiving a large sum of money, which he got, and took back with him from said Calvo, and which sum of money, stated to have been about 200 ounces in gold, it is said, was distributed by Don Pio Diaz in gratifications.

Such, your Excellency, is the information which I have received of this transaction from a sure source, and I hasten to place it within your Excellency's knowledge for such purpose as may be deemed expedient.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 453.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Lordship that I received by the last packet an official letter from his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, a copy of which I have now the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship, and having in consequence addressed a communication to the Captain-General upon the subject of Sir Henry Barkly's despatch, I beg leave to lay that correspondence before your Lordship, by which it appears that nearly all the freed emancipados have engaged themselves as free servants under the regulations prescribed by the Marquis Pezuela, who had promised that the Governor of Jamaica's invitation shall be proposed to the few who are remaining not yet come in from distant places of the interior, but that there

is but little prospect of their being desirous of emigrating to Jamaica for the reasons mentioned in the Political Secretary's letter, the difference of language, usages, and customs which they had acquired by a long residence here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 453.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, February 28, 1854.

HIS Excellency Sir Henry Barkly, the Governor of Jamaica, to whom I communicated your Excellency's Decree granting freedom to all the emancipados, has addressed to me a despatch dated the 25th ultimo, in which he informs me that he has received "addresses from both branches of the legislature requesting him to ascertain to what extent the negroes thus emancipated would be available as free emigrants to that island; and his Excellency adds that no country in the world can offer superior advantages as an asylum and home for the African race."

At the Governor's request, therefore, I beg leave to submit this matter to your Excellency's consideration, in case it should be deemed expedient in any degree to avail of Sir Henry Barkly's proposition, and that any of the freed emancipados should with your Excellency's sanction, be disposed to emigrate to Jamaica.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 453.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

March 3, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General has received your Honour's communication of the 28th of February last, in which the proposition of the Governor of Jamaica is made known to him, respecting the freed emancipados of this island who wish to pass over to that place; and his Excellency having informed himself thereof, desires me to say to your Honour, as I do, that by virtue of the Ordinance recently published by his Excellency the emancipados to whom you refer have contracted themselves with the employers whom they chose, a small number of them only remaining who have not been engaged because they are at places in the interior of the island. To those, his Excellency will take measures for this proposition being made known in case they wish to accept it, as they cannot be forced to do so. But it does not seem probable they will avail of it, when it is considered that they having been here for years, having acquired the language, usages, and customs of the Spaniards, they will refuse to change all this suddenly, by transferring themselves to a country to them totally unknown, which, as your Honour knows, has been the case with some of those whom this Government has found it convenient to send to Jamaica, and who have asked with success that they should not be obliged to abandon that which they look upon as their true home.

I repeat, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 453.

The Governor of Jamaica to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

King's House, January 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of 20th ultimo, communicating the arrival of the new Captain-General of Cuba, the Marquis de la Pezuela, and the promulgation by his Excellency of a Decree giving liberty to the emancipados.

I am sorry to learn that this Decree is not complete enough in its provisions to be likely to prove satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government.

One of the newspapers of this island has published what purports to be a translation of it, which has attracted much attention here, and I have in consequence received addresses from both branches of the legislature requesting me to ascertain to what extent the negroes thus emancipated would be available as free emigrants to Jamaica.

You are so well aware that no country in the world can offer superior advantages as an asylum and a home for the African race, that it is unnecessary for me to enlarge upon the point, nor need I do more than remind you how highly any services you may be able to render in such a matter would be appreciated by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY BARKLY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 453.

Consul-General Crawford to the Governor of Jamaica.

Sir,

Havana, March 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 25th of January, and, in consequence addressed a communication upon the subject of the freed emancipados to his Excellency the Captain-General; and I have now the honour of transmitting herewith a copy thereof, and of the Political Secretary's answer, by desire of the Marquis de la Pezuela, by which your Excellency will perceive that nearly all the freed emancipados have engaged themselves here under the regulations prescribed by the Captain-General, who has promised, however, that your Excellency's invitation shall be proposed to the few who are remaining not yet come in from distant places in the interior; but that he thinks there is little prospect of their being desirous of emigrating to Jamaica, because of the difference of the language, usages, and customs which they have acquired by a long residence here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 454.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith inclosed to your Lordship, a copy of the defence which was put in by M. Costalas, the counsel appointed for the three British sailors, Charles Robinson, William Hersey, and John Ratcliffe, who were on board the slaver "*Jasper*," and also a copy of the definitive sentence putting them and their companions, the six Americans, at liberty.

I am told that there has been no inconsiderable legal ingenuity displayed

in the management of these proceedings, so as to admit of the results which have been arrived at in the acquittal of the Spanish officers implicated, and the discharge from prison of the British and American seamen, showing that it was impossible to obtain the declarations of any witnesses to prove that any negroes had ever been landed, consequently the impunity of all and everybody who had to do with the transaction, and yet here were nine men who came over in the ship from which upwards of 400 slaves were landed, who declare that they were so landed, and that their ship was burnt close to the mainland of the place in this island where she grounded.

Under such circumstances, my Lord, I venture to assert that nowhere else in the world could such a transaction have taken place.

I have now to report that Hersey and Ratcliffe have embarked, by Her Majesty's ship "Vestal," sailed for Bermuda and Halifax; but Robinson, who is a Canadian, having his relations residing in the United States, has preferred remaining on board the American steamer-of-war "Fulton," now in this harbour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 454.

Translation of the principal points of defence of the British Seamen who were on board the "Jasper."

THAT there are no data in this process for considering the three sailors accomplices in the introduction of Bozal negroes.

The legal facts are wanting in this process; the *corpo de delicto* is wanting. There has been no capture of the negroes who are said to have been introduced; not one of them has been found; the names of the outfitters, of the captain, of the mate, and of the crew, are not known; and of the ship herself, not even the fragments have they found, &c.

Not a single witness has been met with; all of them say, that they know nothing about it; and if nothing of all that has been said about this affair appears in a judicial way, where then is the *corpo de delicto*?

However vehement may be the conjectures, they do not amount to proofs: we look for these amongst the pages of the process, and do not find them; we take more pains to look for them, and the only thing we find is the declaration of the Americans, proving that they have been the victims, but nothing more. These declarations are not the confession of crime, nor are they sufficient for their condemnation, as we shall demonstrate.

The law requires clearness in the proofs, and there is nothing of this in the analysis; the legal fact is wanting, and without this no punishment can be inflicted.

The law requires proofs, not suspicions, whereon to condemn.

The practice of our Courts is, to absolve the prosecuted when his criminality is not proved, although it is evident that the crime has been committed; which is as much as to say, that the means of investigation have not been efficacious to demonstrate the responsibility of the party proceeded against; but in this case there is even less than this, because, in the voluminous summary, it is not proved that negroes were introduced, which is the occasion of the process.

The Slave Trade, so immoral and barbarous, which makes of man a merchandize, which degrades and makes vile those who engage in it, has found numerous followers, as the Fiscal acknowledges, and seldom have the tribunal's authority reached to disperse the clouds and darkness with which the love of gain, corruption, and daring, serve to envelop this crime, which reason and the law of humanity condemn.

By this your Highness may see how, in the official letter at folio 1, the Administrator of the Revenues at Mantua asserts, that there were notorious rumours of 280 negroes having been introduced at the Punto de Bailen, but that not a single person attested it; so that there is not a single word written

in these pages, excepting the declarations of the seamen, which deals with this fact, so that the citations of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for that reason (the effects of the Slave Trade) were completely negative, and for the same reason the *corpo de delicto* has not been proved.

We must not, however, deduce from this, as the Fiscal has put it in his opinion, that the country is in favour of the introduction of Africans. The same thing happens upon the investigation of the gravest actions; there are those who see, who were present, who know, who refer to, and who, in private, assert, and can give an account of the smallest particulars, but who will say nothing, know nothing, and are ignorant of everything, when they are called up judicially.

Unfortunately, to the law, as a civil institution, there is attached a certain dread, which is unlucky, because its fruit is, that crimes go unpunished, and leaves in inaction the powerful arm of the tribunals.

To this custom, which has its origin in ignorance and error, and which will cease with the effects of illustration, is owing the profound silence which is observable, and the want of data for judicial decisions; and can it be said for this, that the country where this happens is in favour of the impunity of crime; that it loves and foment crime?

Most certainly not: evils there are whose root is in the being of the people, and the people receive an education, socially, which influences their private or intellectual, as well as their habits and all their actions; and it is not possible to mark this influence which, notwithstanding, they feel and notice in all their acts.

For the legislator, for the jurisconsult, and for these and for the humblest observer, there are never wanting special cases. The obscurity of this summary, the sterile result of the infinite number of measures taken. Silence and denial working against the activity and perseverance of the Magistrate do not prove that the country is in favour of the introduction of Africans, nor for the infraction of the Treaties whose observance they so much try to fulfil.

John Radcliffe, Charles Robinson, and William Hersey, are not accomplices, in the introduction of the 280 negroes; they are victims and not delinquents, deceived and not deceivers.

There is not any article of the Penal Law which comprehends their case; they were not captured either at sea or on shore in the committal of the crime, nor did their vessel go out from this island; no negroes have been captured. Excepting in their own declarations, there is not the slightest indication of the expedition. Outfitters and captain have taken, as their confession of crime, the very exception which would free them, unless, indeed, they had obtained proof of the disembarkation.

That they sailed from New York, as sailors on board the American barque "*Jasper*," to Africa, upon a voyage of lawful commerce: that, as soon as they saw the negroes on board, they refused to continue the voyage, but they could obtain nothing, owing to the distance they were from the place where they had a Consul of their nation; that they were brought to the south of this island; that in a boat they were taken to Cayo Eubias, the captain, mate, and those employed in the vessel, having gone away; that those others set fire to the vessel; and that, in their endeavours to obtain assistance at Cape Antonio, they were made prisoners, and taken to the steamer "*Guadalquiver*." This is what they say in their declarations. Cite, therefore, any Article the most adapted, even of the penal law, and in none of them is the present case comprehended.

The only charges which, at folios 376, 378, and 413, are made against them, are not only answered, but they are overwhelmed.

Why did they continue the voyage (they say to them) when they already knew the object, and so cooperate in the prohibited Traffic in Slaves?

Why, because victims, in the first instance, of a deception, they were so afterwards by the force of circumstances. It is quite original, that when according to law, the charges preferred should be upon the merits resulting from the process, the only ones which have here been made are based solely upon the declarations of the accused.

Read the whole summary, and from it there arises no legal charge; and this says much in favour of their innocence.

In their condition as mariners, they were in ignorance of the real purpose of the expedition, nor did they occupy themselves in inquiry.

It is proved to every one how they were engaged, designating the time, the place, and the wages, with expression also of the object which was stated, so that they had no reason to suspect deceit. Victims of circumstances altogether insurmountable, because in that latitude at sea, at an enormous distance from the assistance which their Consul would have afforded them, they had to submit, and did submit, in so critical a situation.

To be criminals, as they suppose Radcliffe, Robinson, and Hersey, they should have gone with the Captain, and the others belonging to the vessel, when they landed the negroes, set fire to her, and thus secured their flight; but they preferred remaining; they would not continue with those who so vilely had deceived them; they suffered hunger and privations, remaining in a strange country, even the language of which they could not speak; they get into a boat; they are apprehended, imprisoned; and even so, charges are made against them, and they are found fault with for an action in which voluntarily they took no part; they are unfortunate, and out of their very misfortune they form an accusation to send them into banishment.

We knew no one, they said: the country was strange to us; we did not know where we were to go; we did not go to the authorities, for we did not know them, because they threatened us, and they assured us that we should be imprisoned and persecuted. The actors in this offence were far away, and in safety were laughing at the efforts of those whom they had deceived to return to their homes, and the exercise of their rights.

Here there were no crimes; there is no blame, and the facts remain satisfactorily explained.

Your Highness must see that nothing has been made out as to the offence; that they have not apprehended a single negro; that the outfitters and the employes on board the vessel are unknown; that neither have they discovered who it was who here purchased those slaves; that the investigation has been carried on in the very interior of the estates; their whole strength, *i.e.*, the labourers, have been made to appear before the magistrate; the drivers, servants, and even the slaves themselves, have been interrogated; that the examination of the vessel, which was made by the Sub-delegate of the Marine, was of no use whatever, for it states, that they could not understand the rig nor the masting of the "*Jasper*," nor could they designate as being her either of the two hulks which they then saw; all remains in obscurity and mystery. They absolve, for want of proofs, Colonel Ayllon, who was the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio, who was the local authority responsible; they also absolve the Captain Pedaneo of the district; they restore them to their employments; and there are other men of miserable station, foreigners, who lose themselves in our waters without wherewith to feed themselves; and shall the results be against them alone of these proceedings? Your Highness cannot allow it.

If these declarations, as I have shown, have no merit, your Highness absolving the functionaries of Pinar del Rio who are responsible for the guarding of those coasts; if these proceedings are not efficacious even for considering them negligent, it is impossible that these declarations, the only data in the process, should now be sufficient to condemn, when previously they were no obstacles to the acquittal. It would be absurd to conceive such an anomalous contrariety; too monstrous, when the solemn and severe acts of justice are certain, unalterable, and determine the rectitude of the magistrate, which is one of the most sacred attributes of justice.

The declarations of the sailors, my clients, are not then the confession of crime, nor is it that of which the law of Partido speaks. Read them to be convinced thereof. In them it says not, we have committed the crime; they only say, we were deceived; they refer to the unlawful acts of others, such as the Traffic, the introduction of slaves in this island; but neither in the one nor the other did they take part by their will or incentives. Cite me from their declarations the slightest foundation to accredit it.

All the circumstances under which the sailors found themselves after the negroes were on board, and they discovered the exact object of the voyage, produced over them a real necessity, a force which they could not overcome, and this force, this violence of circumstances, were the latitude, greater

numbers, their miserable condition, their enormous distance their being without the means of avoiding it, and even the alternative of rising against the captain, for they would have perished in the struggle.

The law frees from punishment the man if he is under this terrible weight of circumstances, &c,

In conclusion, it must be deduced that there was no liberty of action, physical or moral, that these acts are therefore not imputable to them under any view whatever, and that, as this special requisite was wanting, there existed no responsibility in the eye of the law.

Inclosure 2 in No. 454.

Final sentence on the British Seamen who were on board the "Jasper."

(Translation.)

THE marineros, William Atkins, William Freeborn, Harvey Pratts, John William Leo, Charles Hersey, George Hunt, John Radcliffe, Charles Robinson, and William Hussey, are absolved from the charge, and they shall be put at liberty, declaring the costs to be "official," and transmit a copy of this sentence to the Governor, &c.

The Fiscal declares the superior Decree of the 20th to be carried into effect, and in virtue thereof proceed to the liberation from prison of the accused if they are not detained for any other cause.

February 20, 1854.

No. 455.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 6, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of February,* inclosing a copy of the denouncement which you had addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting the Spanish brig "*Destino*," and stating that you had written to Her Majesty's Consuls in Louisiana and Alabama respecting this vessel. And I have to acquaint you that I approve of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 456.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 15, 1854.

I TRANSMIT for your information, copies of a note which I have received from M. de Comyn, and of the answer† which I have returned to it, respecting the recent capture made by the Cuban authorities, of 600 Bozal negroes, and respecting the wreck of a vessel which foundered off Cayo Verde, and which you

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 656.

† Nos. 377 and 382.

alluded to in your letter to the Captain-General of the 12th of last January, as being possibly the wreck of one of two vessels which had some time previously landed cargoes of slaves at Sagua.

As it is of extreme importance that the good relations which appear now to exist between you and the Captain-General of Cuba should be maintained, and that the latter should be encouraged in the exertions which he appears to be making for the suppression of the Slave Trade, it is desirable that you should exercise the greatest caution in denouncing disembarkations of slaves, and that you should in every case ascertain, as far as possible, that the evidence upon which you proceed, is trustworthy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 457.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received April 19.*)

(Extract.)

Havana, March 21, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 7th instant,* in which I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship the capture of 600 Bozal negroes, recently imported at the south side of this island, I am now enabled to state to your Lordship that I have received a communication from Commander Dobbie, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Buzzard," dated from off Trinidad the 10th instant, by which it appears that the 600 negroes captured, were landed at a place called Salabacoa; that part of the crew also fell into the hands of the Spanish authorities, but that the brig itself in which the slaves were brought, and the rest of the crew, had escaped.

Her Majesty's steamer "Devastation" arrived from Jamaica on the 16th instant, and having landed the late Governor of that colony, the Right Honourable Sir Charles Edward Grey, departed to resume her station, for prevention of the Slave Trade.

No. 458.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received April 19.*)

My Lord,

Havana, March 21, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General having, in a conversation I had with him on the 19th instant, informed me that the free labourers, Indians, from Yucatan, whom it is proposed to introduce here in the manner stipulated by President Santa Anna, upon the privilege granted to the house of Goicoria and Co., a copy of which I have received from Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, can only be permitted to come in under the regulations published under date the 23rd of December last,† Messrs. Goicoria's privilege may therefore be considered useless; and as I have been informed by M. Tito Vecino, the party who went to Mexico and obtained the said privilege, that by the first arrival from Yucatan some of said labourers are expected to arrive, towards whom it will be impossible to observe the conditions of the contracts prescribed by the Mexican Government, I shall watch the proceedings with a view to justice being done to these people, and I shall take the earliest opportunity of reporting thereon to your Lordship.

In the meantime, I propose to acquaint Mr. Doyle of the conversation

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 660.

† See Mr. Crawford's despatch of January 7, 1854, Class B, presented 1854, No. 645.

which I had with the Marquis de la Pezuela, so as that, should he deem it to be expedient, he may communicate with the Mexican Government upon this important subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 459.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon:—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 8th ultimo,* inclosing a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Lord Howden, transmitting a copy of the answer which the Conde de Bagaes had addressed to the Spanish Government, denying the statement that the negroes referred to in my despatch of 30th of September last, were received on his estate.

I have given the denial of the Conde de Bagaes my special attention, and in obedience to your Lordship's instruction, I have the honour of submitting my observations thereon.

I am exceedingly pleased that the Conde has been able to deny that his representatives had anything to do with the disembarkation of Bozal negroes upon that occasion, and that they were not received at his estate. There is, however, no doubt that the landing which I denounced was effected, and there is, I believe, as little doubt of the fact, that those concerned in their introduction availed themselves of the canal which leads from the sea to the estate of "San José de Bagaes," the which canal, until I saw the Count's letter to the Spanish Minister, I was led to believe belonged exclusively to his Excellency, who now asserts (that of which I was not aware) that it is a public thoroughfare.

M. Rubiroso, the agent who, upon the occasion referred to, received the 260 Bozal negroes, consequently had a right of way from the sea by the canal leading to the estate of Bagaes, and such is the sort of "freemason" understanding in the country upon such occasions, that it would not be surprising if the slaves had temporary accommodation there. The information which I received and acted upon in my denouncement of that affair, did not warrant my implicating the owner of the estate; nor did I do so; but I considered it my duty to advert to the character of the locality, which attached to it by reason of former extensive introductions of Bozal negroes, and your Lordship will have observed how closely the Conde adheres to his denial, in the statement, that since his absence from Cuba, he is certain that nothing like connivance at such introductions of slaves has been allowed by his attorneys, as his Excellency's instructions are quite terminant upon that subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 460.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon:—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 27, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 25th ultimo,† transmitting for my information a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid,

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 641.

† Ibid., No. 648.

expressing the gratification with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the praiseworthy determination of the Marquis de la Pezuela to put a stop to the Slave Trade between the African coast and the Island of Cuba.

Conceiving that his Excellency would be much gratified by such expression of Her Majesty's Government, I have taken an opportunity of communicating to the Marquis the purport of your Lordship's despatch, and he has expressed to me his most sincere thanks for the sentiments which were therein expressed by your Lordship.

I trust that your Lordship will approve of my having made this communication to the Captain-General, who appears to be actuated by the most sincere desire to do everything in his power to check and put down the Traffic, as well as to ameliorate the condition of the slaves as much as possible, consistently with the security of the island under his Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 461.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received April 29.*)

My Lord,

Havana, March 27, 1854.

IN obedience to the instruction conveyed in your Lordship's despatch dated 25th ultimo,* the receipt of which I have the honour of acknowledging, I have expressed to the Captain-General Marquis de la Pezuela, the satisfaction and thanks of Her Majesty's Government at his Excellency's ready acquiescence in my request that the emancipados Demetrio and Escolastica might be allowed to remain in the Island of Cuba, with the latter's children; and I have now the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a copy of my letter to his Excellency, and of the Political Secretary's acknowledgment thereof, by his Excellency's direction, of this day's date, expressive of his most sincere thanks upon the occasion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 461.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, March 24, 1854.

HAVING reported to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that your Excellency had granted free papers to the emancipados Demetrio and Escolastica and her children, as well as that your Excellency had been pleased to permit them to remain in the island at my request; I am instructed by the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon to express to your Excellency the satisfaction and thanks of Her Majesty's Government at your Excellency's ready acquiescence in my request.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 649.

Inclosure 2 in No. 461.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

Havana, March 27, 1854.

HIS Excellency charges me to say to your Honour, that he has received with satisfaction your two letters of the 24th and 25th of this month, and his Excellency thanks your Honour sincerely for the sentiments which, in them, you are pleased to express.

I repeat, &c.
(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 462.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 28, 1854.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship the document herewith inclosed, being a narrative of the occurrences at the Ensenada de Cortez from the date of the disembarkation of the cargo of slaves brought by the "*Jasper*" in April last year, to the conclusion of the summary investigations of that and other landings of negroes at or near the same place; descriptive also of the machinations of the slave-traders, and connivance of the authorities at the introduction of slaves contrary to the law and in violation of the existing Treaties—a system of corruption by means of which those concerned have escaped punishment, and all our endeavours to put an end to the Slave Trade have hitherto been defeated.

I may venture to assure your Lordship that the facts stated in the narrative were nearly all of them communicated to me as they occurred, although not in so circumstantial a manner. The whole may be depended upon as being perfectly true, and it was upon the information which I had of such scandalous and corrupt practices, that I wrote so strongly as I did to General Cañedo with regard to what there was so much to complain of in the jurisdiction of Pinar del Rio, where his Commissioners, all of them, one after the other, were bribed to deceive him, as Colonel Ayllon, the Lieutenant-Governor, had done in the first instance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 462.

Narrative of Occurrences at Ensenada de Cortez.

(Translation.)

1st Landing.—IN the month of September 1852, 100 Bozal negroes belonging to two Spanish merchants, were landed at the anchorage of Coloma de Colon, Punta de Cartas, district of Pinar del Rio; they (the Spanish merchants) had bought them at Bahia Honda from Don José Maria Cagigal, nephew of Don Joaquin Somez, and said negroes were reported to be "ladinos" from one of his estates.

The sale of these Africans having been opened in the stores of the Old Steam-packet Company, the cholera appeared amongst them, and so great was the alarm which spread in the neighbourhood, that the Lieutenant-Governor

Colonel Don Pantaleon Lopez de Ayllon could not help calling together the Board of Health, and sent two of the faculty, the Licentiates Fustien and Martinez, to attend the sick, of whom many died, and they reported daily what occurred during the space of one month, all the expenses being defrayed by the Steam-packet Company.

Colonel Ayllon, who at that time was on bad terms with those merchants, also reported to Captain-General Cañedo, that some Bozals who had been introduced at Coloma and Colon had been attacked with cholera, and his Excellency being so informed, ordered that a formal inquiry should be instituted, naming as judge the Oidor Don Leon Herques, who, with the Escribano Don Juan de Dios Pastoriza, came to that place on the south coast.

The measures which were put in practise by the interested, made it appear that these negroes were "ladinos," brought from the property of Don Joaquin Gomas, with licences from the authorities of Bahia Honda, and as for this purpose it was necessary to get rid of or annul the qualification of Bozals, applied to them by Ayllon in his report to the Captain-General, it was necessary to have recourse to bribery, and they agreed with Ayllon himself for the sum of 100 ounces of gold, to retract, as he did in another official letter, saying, that being ignorant of the provincialisms of the country, he had used the word Bozal under the belief that it was applicable to all Africans; but that having been better informed, he had to notice that the negroes landed and sold, or who had died were ladinos, or of those who had been long in the island.

The 100 ounces were delivered to him by Don Rafael Palma, who is employed in the Royal Revenue Service in the district of Consolacion, by order of Don José Maria Cagigal, it being to be observed that Ayllon demanded 200, and in proof of this, they had to give 102 dollars to the Lieutenant of the district of Pinar del Rio, Don Vicente Caberola, who was in the secret, having signed a report which Ayllon ordered him to make out, and which was to serve as the foundation of his own.

This Commission of the Oidor was a most laughable affair, because having come accompanied by a certain Santillana, a clerk of Don José Canela, he was the Oidor's mentor-representative, and who gave such purchasers timely notice to hide the Bozals, and in their stead appeared ladinos, ready instructed as to the answers they had to give. So it was, that it was shown on the proceedings that all the negroes sold spoke Spanish, and, therefore, they were desisted from.

It ought to be remarked that the Royal Audiencia of Havana acted so carelessly in the performance of its duty, that it authorized a scandalous fraud to the prejudice of the Royal revenue in not obliging the clandestine vendors to pay the 5 per cent. duty of alcabala which is recovered upon each slave every time they are sold, nor the penalty of four times this duty to which those are subjected who transfer their dominion without the previous execution of a bill of sale, and the payment of the alcabala at the collector's office, and these penalties were unavoidably incurred, since it had been declared that those negroes did not belong to the class of Bozals, as ladinos they could not sell them without a bill of sale, nor without paying the alcabala to the Royal revenue; consequently, it is evident that the revenue has been defrauded of 2,500 dollars by the sale to the two merchants by Gomez and nephew, of 2,500 dollars upon the sale by these afterwards to various persons, of 20,000 dollars to which the fine designated would amount, and to much more by the successive selling of the same negroes, which has been effected, and which continually is being effected in a clandestine manner.

The motives which this superior tribunal may have had for not attending to these fiscal interests are not known, but it is certainly the first of its duties to take care that the lawful revenues of the State are properly collected.

2nd Landing.—This cause had not yet been concluded, when in April 1853, an American barque appeared in the anchorage at Bailen, in the district of Guanabacoa on the south coast, and after having made signals, she went on to the Ensenada de Cortez, and landed 296 Bozals, who were conducted to the hilly estate called the "Valle," belonging to Don Pio Diaz to whom they were consigned by the owners of the expedition, Don Manuel Calvo and Don N. Plá, who were not long in arriving there and in opening the sale publicly. For this

purpose Don Pio had already come to an understanding with the Governor, Don Pantaleon Lopez Ayllon, who exacted 17 dollars a-head upon the 500 which were expected by this vessel, and on the rest which in others were to be brought, and he did not please to make any abatement when they stated to him that only 296 had arrived, so that it was necessary to pay him the 500 ounces in gold coin which the same Don Pio carried to him at Pinar del Rio on the 7th of May, taking from the Governor Ayllon, for his protection, a letter of order which the Governor addressed to the Captain (acting) of Guanés, Don José Mendez, desiring him not to capture the negroes, nor interfere to molest the owners of the expedition.

This letter was indeed useful, for upon the return of Don Pio Diaz the negroes had already been detained by the Lieutenant of the district, Don Luiz Moreno, aided by his Rounds, who having reported to Captain Mendez, remained firm until he (the Captain) arrived with a numerous escort. Upon seeing him, Don Pio went to meet him, and imperiously ordered him to retire from his house, and as Mendez was desirous to have his authority respected, he took out the letter order and gave it him to read, and then took it away from him and tore it up, upon which they all retired, and the coast remained clear.

The principal sales were made by lots, of 40 to Don José Hernandez Alvarez, 20 to Don José Marià Hernandez, 10 to Don Lorenzo Garcia, 10 to Don Andres Acosta, 20 females to Don Juan Pequeño, 10 to Don Gregario Diaz, 20 to the said Don Pio, 10 to Don Rafael José Diaz, and the rest to various persons who paid a part in cash down, and for the remainder drew out pagarés, or promissory notes, to the order of and in favour of Calvo and of Plá.

As soon as the landing was effected, the vessel was set on fire at the said Ensenada upon the kays of Cortez, and as she was aground she only burnt to the water's edge, and remained in sight from a great distance. She had on board ivory, had two anchors with beautiful chains, all of which were stolen soon afterwards by the Sub-delegate of Marine, Don Cristobal Barquero, and by some fishermen who live on the same kays. Neither the sea, nor the strong south winds, have been sufficient to tear the vessel from her bed where she is still to be found, and is visited as a curiosity, so celebrated has the expedition she conveyed become in that country.

In the confusion produced by the burning and landing, three sailors belonging to the American barque got possession of a boat of Don Lewis Pimientas, owner of the Grifa estate, and fled toward Cape San Antonio; but on their arrival at a place called the Cayuelo, they were detained by the matriculated persons, Don Georga Garcia and Don Francisco Pitaluga, who delivered them to the Spanish war schooner "Habanera," there stationed, by which they were sent to the Havana, where they were made prisoners in the jail, subjecting them as accused to the proceedings ordered to be carried out for investigation of the landing.

The Spanish Captain and Mate went off to Batabano from Bailen on board the steamer "Cubano," and from thence they went to Havana.

The other sailors, also Americans, six in number, were taken and left on the kays of San Philipe where food was sent to them, and at a certain distance from the shore it was thrown to them, in order that they should not take possession of the boat or canoe. Afterwards they were conveyed to the kay of Cortez, and, finally, to the woods of La Grifa, persuading them that they would be taken to the Havana by a vessel to be expressly employed for that purpose.

During their stay at La Grifa the plan was proposed of assassinating them, and they even sent to the district of Mantua for a coloured person called Acanda, but whether it was owing to the extreme vigilance of the sailors who never separated themselves for a moment, or to the opposition of some of the club of Don Pio Diaz, the author of the plan, this idea was not realised; but they decided upon sending the victims to the estate of San Francisco, the owner of which is Don Julian Linares, on the north coast, jurisdiction of Mantua, that he should take charge of them to send them to Kay West for the sum of 100 ounces, which Don Pio asserts he paid to Linares, and which he recovered from the outfitter Calvo, such outlay not being very certain, because the letters, and receipts, vouchers of this account, which was sent to the interested, were forged.

by the same Don Pio, and written at Havana by a lad, the son of a Mantua woman called Nuasia. In this manner Don Pio stole 100 ounces, and by this act towards his consigners falsifying signatures of Linares, and considering his lax morality, he probably has done the same towards everybody else.

It is to be borne in mind that at Guanes and at Mantua when they say of any one "he is gone to Kay West," it is to be understood that he is dead, and for that reason, Linares being a famous assassin, harbourer of pirates and evil-doers at his estate of San Francisco, which forms the Ensenada of San Francisco y Guadiana, it is to be presumed that the sailors were consigned to death, and this is the more credible as between those places and Kay West there has never been nor is there communication of any sort.

In what vessel then were the six American sailors to have been sent?

Linares, without doubt, received these people full of doubts and apprehension, and owing to their considerable number he could neither assassinate them nor keep them any length of time; he shipped them in a miserable canoe and sent them to sea that they should be swept away by the currents, perish by the rigour of the elements, or by hunger.

Divine Providence had, however, determined otherwise; these unfortunates were found by the war-schooner "Habanero," who delivered them to the skipper of the coaster "Josefa," to convey them to Havana, as she did, having been presented to the authority, who sent them to the gaol, and subjected them to trial for the landing of the negroes, and it so happened, that before they were at the disposition of the authorities, they were taken to the house of the outfitters of the expedition, who took care to give them money and instruct them as to what they were to say, offering them their protection, and threatening them if they deviated.

With these explanations, which are episodes of interest with respect to the principal action of the drama, we now proceed to the trial, which made so much noise and brought forth a mouse, as Horace says.

The news having spread to all places of the landing and sale of Bozal negroes, as well as of the burning of the vessel, the bribes paid, and other particulars, the Lieutenant-Governor Ayllon set about covering himself, and for that purpose sent off an order, accompanied by a confidential note from his clerk, Don Ramon Cruz, to the Acting Captain of Guanes, Dio José Mendez, that he should form a summary for investigation if it was true what was announced by the public voice. This summary was made by witnesses suborned, and consequently it resulted that the whole rumour was false.

After this Colonel Ayllon received an official letter from the Captain-General, in which was embodied another from the Intendent of the Revenues, in which was inserted the report made by the Administrator of the Royal Duties of Mantua, Don Joaquin Herrera, denouncing the landing of these Bozal negroes. The place designated by Herrera was a mistake, for he mentioned Bailen instead of the Ensenada and Kays of Cortes, which mistake served admirably for the compositions which they made.

The Captain-General desired the Lieutenant-Governor to proceed to the investigation, and to the capture for Bozales and arrest of the outfitters, sellers and buyers, &c., holding him responsible for any omission. This order very much disgusted Colonel Ayllon, who already believed that everything had been concluded; but he had to feign that he would comply with it, so he put himself *en route* for Guanes, where he lodged himself in the Valle-house of Don Pio Diaz. He there began to form the summary with witnesses already prepared for the purpose. There he eat and drank merrily in the company of those he ought to have been proceeding against. After that he went to the vega (tobacco plantation) of Don Pio's brother, Don Sragorio Diaz, where the same scenes were repeated. Then he went to those of Don Antonio Rubio and Don Mariano Vidal, brothers-in-law to Don Pio, and finally, surrounded and escorted always by the Diazes he proceeded to Mantua without its being known why, for the theatre of the occurrences was Guanes, distant from thence seven leagues on the south coast, the other town being on the north coast.

Whilst he was upon this excursion to Mantua, there arrived at Pinar del Rio, a Commandant of the Staff called Golfin, who stated that he brought an urgent despatch from the Captain-General, and was charged to deliver it into Colonel Ayllon's own hands; and a guide and horses having been provided for

him, he set out forthwith to find him, and got as far as Guanes, from thence he wrote to Ayllon, who was still remaining at Mantua, and went to meet him. What they conferred about is not known, but the despatch was solely to suspend the Acting Captain Mendez, and place him under arrest in the town.

The two chiefs, Ayllon and Golfin, having joined, they went to Bailen, from whence Golfin embarked to return to Havana, and the other remained to continue the famous summary of false and suborned witnesses. The report of the Administrator Herrera and public rumour said that the vessel had been burnt, and it was, therefore, indispensable to prove or discredit that circumstance.

The first would place on evidence the landing, the other would disprove it; and as it was easy to avail of the mistake committed by that officer (Herrera) with regard to the place where the landing was effected, Colonel Ayllon at once adopted this course in accord with the Sub-delegate of Marine, Don Cristobal Barquero, who steered the boat in which they embarked, and made him take a sea trip in the neighbourhood of Bailen, by which all who were present remained convinced that there did not exist the fragment of any vessel which had been burnt, which was made to appear with all solemnity in the process which was thus closed, it resulting from the declarations and from the examinations of the estates and of the coast, that there had not been any such landing.

You see! How could they see the hull of the burnt barque at the Kays and Ensenada of Cortez if they were looking for it at the anchorage of Bailen, distant many leagues?

Neither Ayllon nor anybody else was ignorant as to where it was; but the mistake of the Administrator of Mantua was too precious to be neglected, and leaving this precedent for what was to come, as it will be seen.

Reporting along with the summary, to the Captain-General, there appeared at Bailen, eight days afterwards, an officer attached to the Political Secretary's Office of the Government of Havana, named Espada, who, calling himself colonel without his being so, and making believe that a Catalan baker, whom he picked up at Batabano, and who accompanied him by arrangement, was his secretary, they landed at Bailen, and proceeded to "the Valle," where they lodged in the house of Don Pio Diaz.

His first words and actions were terrifying; he said, that he had orders of a reserved nature (private orders) from the Captain-General, to operate with full powers; he spoke of prisons, of chain gangs, pretended to get up proceedings, causing them to be written and authorized by this pretended secretary, and in this they spent the morning. When the dinner hour came, he placed the baker-secretary, with an escort of twenty-five countrymen, at the river's edge, with orders not to allow any one to come in or go out from the estate, and then setting himself at table with Don Pio and his family, and other persons, he drank a good deal and put himself in good humour, and became so animated after the dessert with the champagne, that upon rising, he caught Don Pio familiarly by the arm, and took him out to talk to him privately.

The secretary, in the meanwhile, hungry, and tired of making such a ridiculous figure of himself, returned to the house when night was setting in.

The result of the Commissioner Espada's conference with Don Pio Diaz may easily be conjectured; from that time, the two remained intimate friends, by the medium of forty ounces of gold, which annulled his inquiries. The daily banquets were more numerous attended and were more animated, and when it occurred to Espada to take an excursion to Mantua, to visit Colonel Ayllon, the baker-secretary, by this time better advised, had deserted, fearful of the consequences for the part he had been induced to act, impressing upon him the belief that he would thus be serving Government.

These scandalous orgies lasted a whole week, during which nothing was omitted which immorality could offer to the most unbridled libertinage.

Espada returned to Havana, and eight days thereafter the Oidor of the Royal Audiencia, Don Leon Herques, arrived at Bailen, accompanied by the Escrivano Don Juan de Dios Pastoriza, commissioned to form the cause against the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio and other persons, who might appear accomplices in the landing of the negroes and the burning of the vessel which brought them.

At the same time, Colonel Don Francisco Martinez de Unda arrived

charged to take in the meantime the command, suspending Ayllon, and ordering him to proceed to Guanés under arrest.

The Oidor Herques, installed himself in one of the stores of the Steam-Packet Company of the south coast, and from the first steps he took, his wish to save Ayllon and the owners of the expedition may be understood.

Surrounded by persons interested in the affair, he showed them whatever the British Consul had officially written to the Government, reading to them his notes and the official letters sent in consequence by the Captain-General; he indicated to them, also, the individuals whom he would have to cite to declare to the questions which he should have to put to them; he announced to them, with two or more days' anticipation, the estates which he was going to search, and at some of them, such as at those of Don José Maria Hernandez, Don Francisco Jener, Don José Hernandez, and Don Lorenzo Garcia, they received notice from him to prepare breakfast on such a day and at such an hour, and, in a word, his whole conversation was of a nature to prove the necessity of the introduction of slaves in the island, by whatever means they might be, which was heard by those around him, and made known to the witnesses, who, thinking that they would please the judge and the Government, adjusted their answers on this principle.

On the other hand, humiliating letters were circulated from Colonel Don Pantaleon Ayllon, written not only to influential commercial persons, but to subalterns of a low scale in the public employment, in which he supplicated them to favour him, since his only object was to come out acquitted to march himself off to Spain.

These letters were read to all the declarants, in whom they produced the effect for which they were got up, but then, as now and for ever, they were and ever will be, a stain which their author can never erase from the minds of their readers and their hearers, to such an extreme did the Lieutenant-Governor debase himself, in a rich and populous jurisdiction, in order to contrive that the connivance he had committed should be unpunished, notwithstanding its publicity.

Not being able to excuse himself from searching for the hull of the burnt vessel, this business was performed without their even going out of the warehouse, taking for their cue what had been set down by Ayllon, and putting it under the authority of the Sub-delegate of Marine, Barquero, whose conduct has already been described: as might be expected, the Oidor neither could find the fragments they were looking for during all this time, and upon all occasions they spoke of nothing else but of the said hulk, of the way in which it had been burnt, of the efforts made to get her off, of the copper that had been taken off her, &c., all in presence of the Oidor, who laughed to hear the "curradas" (a sort of bull the Andalusians make) of Barquero, when he said that, "three times he had been made to lie," and that notwithstanding, he had not seen the "welcome to us," alluding to money, and in reality had not been compensated by Don Pio up to that time, and knowing of what consequence this man's declaration was, when he refused to give it—then he obtained it, and twenty ounces were given him.

These proceedings being terminated, the Oidor went to Coloma to embark on his return to Havana, but at the time he was about to do so, he received an official letter from the Captain-General, inclosing to him a note from the English Consul, telling him the place where he would find the American sailors, and for this reason he returned to Guanés, and passed to the estate Grifa, in search for these people, as he said, but this surely was not his intention, because, as he was passing by the shop of Don Lucas Díaz de Celis, which is near to the said estate Grifa, those same six American sailors were sitting on the counter, and as he passed they rose up and saluted him. The dress of these men of the sea, their physiognomy, their very alarm at seeing the cavalcade, left no doubt as to who they were, and they were at once known by all who were there, including the Captain of the district; but, notwithstanding, nobody told them, and they proceeded onward till they arrived at La Grifa. The Oidor contenting himself with asking of the owner, Don Luis Pimentél, whether some sailors were still there, to which he answered in the negative, as was to be expected, because he would not confess himself guilty of their concealment, as in reality he was.

It is to be borne in mind, that La Grifa and the Keys of Cortez are only

separated by a short space of a few yards, and that both are in the lagoon also called, "of Cortez;" it was there that they made the landing, and there, to this day, the burnt vessel is to be found.

The Oidor returned to the place called Catalina, and dined at the house of a brother-in-law of Don Pio, called Don Mariano Vidal; a Bozal negro made his appearance, with his arms crossed before him in a supplicating manner, as if imploring mercy in his African tongue, but he had not yet arrived, when a driver tore him away with the greatest violence, without the Oidor's preventing him, who contented himself with asking "who the negro was?" to which the shop-keeper, Llanusa, answered him with great laughter, that he was a crazy man!

This occurrence very much scandalized many of those who were present, for very shortly afterwards they heard the sound of the whip and the lamentations of the victim. The negro was one of the expedition.

Whilst this was going on on the coast of Guanés, the steamers "*Concha*" and "*Cubano*," and some launches, landed other Bozal negroes at Punta de Cartas, who came from the Isle of Pines, and belonging to Don Francisco Roviroso, merchant in Havana, which negroes were sold in lots, almost under the beard of the Oidor; it being most laughable that the outfitter's agents for introducing them, were the same persons who accompanied him to all places, who guided and served him.

The magistrate having returned to Bailén, there took some declarations, and embarked with his suite for Batabanó, and from thence went to Guanés, to take that of Colonel Ayllón, who was already informed of all that had been done in his favour, and was expecting him for that purpose. Under these circumstances, upon a new citation from the British Consul, who did not cease to make true communications, the Captain-General wrote to the Acting Governor of Pinar del Río, to send in search of the American sailors, (or English it was said) who, it was believed, were hidden at the Keys of Cortez, and upon this service the Lieutenant of Infantry, Don Carlos Adolfo, was commissioned, who, instead of finding the individuals he was in search of (they being concealed in the woods of the Grifa estate) fell in with a party of twenty armed men and with another burnt vessel, at a short distance from the barque; this was the crew and the hull of the coasting schooner "*Nueva Empresa*," Don Francisco Dominguez, master, which had been fitted out and dispatched by Don Manuel Calvo, her owner, and which arrived from Africa, the 17th of July, 1853, laden with negroes, as was expressed by the officer Adolfo, in the official report he gave, as follows:—

Secret Commission of the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Río.

As I had the honour of communicating to your Highness in my letter of the 19th current, I left this anchorage at 1 o'clock the same day for that of Bailén. Keeping close to the land, because of the heavy sea which rendered the execution of the commission your Highness was pleased to confide to me the evening previous, somewhat difficult. At half-past 5 the weather became calm, and I steered for Cayo Cortez, where I landed at nightfall, having obliged a boat in which the Carbinero of Bailén, Don Manuel Pernas, was cruising with two men to follow me. Jumping ashore with three armed men who alone accompanied me, and searching the farm-house of Cayo Cortez inhabited by an old fisherman, Don Juan de León, I observed that there were four more with him who looked like seamen, and asking Pernas who they were, he informed me as follows:

"That the hull of the vessel burnt and sunk on the 17th current, visible at least a mile from thence is that of the schooner '*Nueva Empresa*' which came from Africa with 213 negroes who were landed at a place on the coast which he did not know on the north of the island, belonging to the merchant Calvo, of Havana; that the crew who ran her on the Key consisted of a boatswain and twenty sailors, who were at that moment hidden amongst the impenetrable bushes; that the inhabitants of Guanés, Don Pio José Díaz had been there that day, and had brought them a calf and a pig (which animals I saw killed and hung up ready for food), and that he, Pernas, when I met with him, had just learnt all this, and was going to Bailén, to make his report to his

superiors. I made him follow me whilst, with my small force, I hunted the ambuscades; but I had very soon to give up that determination, and have recourse to other measures; I called out for the boatswain to present himself, offering him pardon in the name of the Captain-General and of your Highness, his worthy representative; and in fact, he did so, and after he had come in, the nineteen sailors one by one gave themselves up as per the inclosed list, the last designated therein, called Salvador N., having deserted in a boat which was anchored at a solitary and insecure place. The moral influence of the boatswain was made use of by me so that none of his subordinates should disappear, and this day at 8 in the morning, having seen a boat with two masts to which I made a signal, and it coming close to me, I obliged them to bring us all to this anchorage, where we arrived at 4 in the afternoon, owing to the head wind which beat against us."

The names of the sailors having been already taken down, Don José Acosta, Cinilo Tamaria, and Timothy Pren, mountaineers* from the estate La Grifa, arrived across the two large lakes of the Kay with a letter which, they said, had been sent to him by Don Luis Pimienta.† I took the said letter which, unopened, I also inclose to your Highness.‡ And I put them under arrest that they should not give notice of my presence in that part of the country to those who sent the message, and I left them as well as the fisherman who had harboured the sailors, at liberty upon my going away, as the boat for my transport would not hold them. Having taken precautions, I re-examined by the moonlight, Cayo Cortez, with the pilot who lives there, being about half a mile long, and a quarter in width, for the purpose of capturing the six Englishmen,§ as your Highness directed, but my painful scrutiny was fruitless, learning only from a person of credit, who wished to appear ignorant that the six Englishmen had been saved by a vessel loaded with molasses from Caimito bound to Havana, on some day between the 15th and 20th of the last month which took them on board, he did not know from what place.|| All the operations I thought opportune, being concluded, I gave charge of a boat, sails, and other rigging of the wrecked vessel to Don Manuel Pernas, Carbinero of Bailen, who was to answer to your Highness for these fragments as well as to his chief, the delegate of the Revenues; having no understanding with the Alcalde de Mar who accompanied me, Don José Perez (not Lopez, as I called him by mistake in my former letter) owing to my having well-founded reasons for doubting his honesty.

It is not my intention to take any merit to myself for the result of this little service. Stating to your Highness the want of resources which is here met with; without pedaneos in the neighbourhood, without assistance and without boats, or any body to manage them, I owe all to Providence, to the Alguasil of this Court, Don José Estallas, and to the carbinero, with authority of officer of this place, Don Manuel Mera, which two individuals displayed the greatest zeal, and were untiring, never ceasing night or day to be at my side faithfully carrying out my orders. As the sailors mentioned are attenuated by the fatigues and privations they appear to have undergone, I write at this moment to the Cavalier-Captain of San Juan; that as soon as possible he should let me have horses to convey them to the head of this district, if in the meantime, your Highness does not give other orders.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CARLOS ADOLFO,

Lieutenant of Infantry.

Punta de Cartas, July 20, 1853.

To the Lieutenant-Governor of this Jurisdiction.

* The servants who attend the cattle are so called.

† Pimienta is owner of the Grifa and uncle to Don Pio.

‡ This letter was afterwards changed for another from Don Gil Diaz, brother of Don Pio, at Punta de Cartas, which change was made by the same officer Adolfo before it was sent to the Lieutenant-Governor, whether for intimidation or for a bribe is not known.

§ Americans he should have said, for they were so.

|| This person told an untruth, for at that very time the six sailors whom they were looking for, were concealed at La Grifa, very near to the Cay.

List of the individuals who were apprehended and sent prisoners by Adolfo :

The boatswain ; Don Vicente Beiro. Sailors ; Luis Papi, Nicholas Saavedra, José Francisco Rodriguez, Florentino Silverio, Ramon Soto, Tomas Peña, Juan Sanchez, Manuel Valdez, Lorenzo Tavaró, Francisco Augusti, Lorenzo de la Cruz, Juan de la Cruz, Juan Nepomuceno del Pino, José Gordian, Pedro Pineiro, Antonio Rodriguez, Vicente Sama, José Fernandez, Andrea Frota, Domingo Francisco y Salvador N. (deserter).

When the officer Adolfo landed at Punta de Cartas with the prisoners, his first care was to shut them up in one of the stores or warehouses of that anchorage, barring the windows and placing sentinels in sight, but these precautions did not prevent as soon as the news had spread, that much people collected at the place, especially the brothers of Don Pio Diaz, called Don Rafael and Don Gil, and who joined by other persons made the most lively applications to and even offered, 500 ounces of gold to Adolfo to put them at liberty and not forward his report, but which he refused with firmness ; then it was that they resorted to more violent measures, which were to intercept the official letter addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor, forcing the man who carried it to turn back and say that some armed persons unknown to him would not allow him to continue his route.

He also tried to make the prisoners mutiny, through the medium of the Sub-delegate of Marine, Don José Llouch, who told them that they would all be executed, if they allowed themselves to be conveyed to prison, because they would be tried as pirates. These manœuvres were defeated by the boatswain, who acted in this with exemplary honour.

Whilst this was going on, the same officer Adolfo, on the 20th of July, at Punta de Cartas received another communication in which he was ordered to go to the Kays of Cortez, and explore, to see if he could meet with the wreck of the barque said to have been burnt, and taking then the assistance of the Sub-delegate Llouch and others, he embarked leaving the prisoners to the care of the Alguazil Don José Estellas. The following morning he returned, the result of his exploration being, that he found the hull of the American vessel burnt to the water's edge, with two anchors and chains on board, as he explained in detail by a separate official letter which it may be sure was not produced in the trial of Colonel Ayllon, no doubt for the reason that it belied the suppositious examination (search) of the magistrate of the Audiencia, who had seen nothing of these fragments so interesting for discovery of the truth.

It was when Adolf had come back that he met with the bearer of the despatch which it was supposed he could not pass on with, and those who were then present redoubling their applications, mixed with supplications, promises, and threats, he consented at last, to change the intercepted letter he caught at the Kay from the woodsmen of La Grifa, for another written at the moment by a clerk of the store, and which Don Gil Diaz signed with a view by that means to cover the grave responsibility of Don Pio his brother.

The real letter which had been intercepted was written at La Grifa, by Don Luez Pimiento and was addressed to his nephew Don Pio José Diaz at the Kay of Cortez. He said to him, that he had just received notice from the Captain of the district, and which was most urgent that the crew who were at the Kay should be taken away without delay, for that they were all compromised. This letter was torn and burnt. That which was substituted, was limited to Don Gil's asking his brother Don Pio Diaz, for the loan of thirty ounces for an urgent purpose, and which letter being closed was inclosed with the report which is here copied.

It will at once be noticed that the officer Adolfo, saying in the official report that Don Pio Diaz had been there (at the Kay) that day, and that the woodsmen of La Grifa, Don José Acosta, and Don Cirilo Tamauriz, and Don Timotheo Pren, had told him that the letter they carried was from Don Luíz Pimenta for Don Pio, there is a notorious contradiction between these manifestations and the subsequent act, the said letter being signed by Don Gil Diaz, who neither was at La Grifa, nor was it likely he should send to ask for money from his brother at no less a place than Cayo Cortez, when he resides at his estate "the Valle," at a league's distance from the place occupied by the other, on the high road between them ; it was not likely, I repeat, because the Kays of Cortez are

five leagues from the property of Don Gil, and, because even if he knew that his brother was at the Kays, he could not suppose that he had the money he wanted, just at that moment, also because the woodsmen of La Grifa and not his servants or clerks were the bearers of the letter, in short, because the going round of about ten leagues which they had done without reflection or purpose.

Besides the woodsmen said that they were sent by their Captain Don Luiz Pimienta, they came from La Grifa seeking for Don Pio, and this was the truth, for he was the agent of the outfitters at the Kays, from whence he fled upon the officer Adolfo's arrival.

The alteration or the exchange of the letter having been done in the way stated (a thing which the officer Adolfo does not deny, stating that he is ready to account for the motives which obliged him to do so), he transmitted his official report and the prisoners to the town of Pinar del Rio, where they were shut up in the jail, during the taking of their declarations. Subsequently they sent them to Havana by the steamer "*Vegüero*," belonging to the same owners and outfitters of the burnt schooner the "*Nueva Empresa*."

In the declarations taken from all these seamen, they agreed that they had gone to the coast of Africa in search of negroes, but that not having found them they had come back without them; numbers were ignorant (a very strange thing) of the name of the captain, and that even of the vessel; others of them gave false names to them, and a few there were who mentioned the "*Nueva Empresa*." They also stated that a sailor died at Cayo Cortez, who had been unwell, which circumstance ought to have attracted attention, because of the rumour current at Guanés, that that sailor had assassinated the mate for the ill-treatment he received from him on the voyage, the master Dominguez being confined to his bed, and this induces the belief, that it was the mate and not a seaman who died, so they ought at last to have disinterred the body.

These prisoners being at Havana, the process was made up at Pinar del Rio, where it was delayed a long while owing to the known partiality of the assessor Rojo, to whom the company presented two Bozal negroes, who are now at his tobacco plantation. In this way all was made up, and the pie thus arranged was sent to the Royal Audiencia to continue the trial of those captured, who, if they were not slavers in reality, ought most certainly to have been held and tried as pirates, but the very reverse took place, thanks to the influence and sacrifices of the outfitters.

This batch of men who were found on a desert coast, who confessed that they had set their vessel on fire, whose name and that of the captain they concealed, who did not present any patent (register) or papers to the authorities; these men were not punished in any way!

Third Landing.—After these occurrences at the coast of Guanés, and that of Señor Juan y Martínez, another cargo of negroes was landed, who came from the Isle of Pines to the Ensenada del Pato, in the district of Consolación of the south, which Bozals mixed up with the slaves of Don Antonio Leal, at his property Santa Monica, were there sold without any inquiry having been made, because the news of them did not reach the upright Acting Governor Señor de Unda.

Finally, on the 17th of September, the same year 1853, a schooner of Don Manuel Calvo's arrived at the memorable Cayo de Cortez and landed 93 Africans, who were immediately sold to Don Juan Paqueño and Don Jacinto Curi, merchants of Pinar del Rio; a lot of 80 of whom he at once sold to Don Juan Hernandez Alvarez, and the greater part to divers other parties—for the greater scandal the deposits were made in the very village of Guanés, in the house of the Judge of the locality, Don Angel Palseios; in the tobacco plantation of Don Pio Diaz, which is under the charge of one called Juan Bullo, close to the Pinar del Rio. Of this landing the English Consul also had notice, and having written to the Captain-General Cañedo, his Excellency gave orders to the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio to investigate it, and although Colonel Unda endeavoured to do so, it was too late, and he could not effect anything.

The schooner was put at rest by an auger-hole (bored), her crew taken to Batabano by the steamer Cabano. The agent consignee as before was Don Pio Diaz, and the Commissioner to fetch the money which he asked for from Havana for the purpose or under the pretext of giving gratifications to the employés, was a cousin of his called the Baron Pimienta.

The result which took place in these trials, was to desist in the first and in the second the Royal Audiencia declaring, that the reputation of Colonel Ayllon was not injured, for which reason he was promoted to the Government of Trinidad, where, before completing two months, he permitted by bribery another landing about the middle of February of the current year, for which he has been removed, at the same time as the Alcalde Mayor Don Antonio Muñoz. The Commandant of Marine, the Administrator of the Royal Revenues, and various other officers, by order of General Pezuela, but no other punishment has been given to this demoralized and repeatedly offending person.

The American sailors of the barque who had so many times run the risk of losing their lives at the Cape San Antonio, were the only victims in the memorable cause under which they were tried.

The others of the schooner "*Nueva Empresa*" captured by the officer Adolfo, at Cayo Cortez, were put at liberty by disposition of the Royal Audiencia.

The hull of the barque (American) still remains at Cayo Cortez, where it was burnt, and at a short distance from her may be found that of the schooner already mentioned.

No. 463.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 1, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of January last, I have to inform you that I transmitted a copy of that despatch to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, with instructions to cause the proceedings of Joaquim Gaspard de Motta to be watched on his arrival at New York; and I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crampton in reply, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to him on the 5th ultimo, by Her Majesty's Consul at New York, stating that Motta had arrived at that place, and giving information as to his proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 464.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th of March,† stating that you had communicated to the Marquis de la Pezuela the contents of my despatch to you of the 25th of February, in which I inclosed a copy of the despatch which I had addressed on the same date to Lord Howden instructing his Lordship to express to the Spanish Government the gratification with which Her Majesty's Government had learnt the praiseworthy determination of the Marquis de la Pezeula to put down the Slave Trade.

And I have to inform you that I entirely approve of your having communicated to his Excellency the purport of my despatch in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 600.

† No. 460.

No. 465.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 21, 1854.

HAVING received from Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, a despatch dated the 2nd instant, a copy of which I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship, respecting the apparently well founded suspicions which there are that the Slave Trade from Africa is carried on by means of the fishing settlements which have been permitted to be made on the coast of Yucatan, and the adjacent islands under the authority of the Governor Barbachano dated the 21st June, 1848.

Upon this subject, and also respecting the abuses practised in Yucatan, with regard to the poor Indians of that country, who, it appears are forced to embark on board of coasters and other small craft from the Spanish fishing settlements on that coast, and like the Africans, are brought to this island to be dealt with as slaves, Mr. Doyle had deemed it his duty to make a strong representation to the Mexican Government, a copy of which, as well as of the documents relative to the grievances alluded to, his Excellency has no doubt laid before your Lordship, and to which I beg leave respectfully to refer.

I thought it important to address the Captain-General, and I accordingly inclosed to his Excellency a copy of Mr. Doyle's despatch and its inclosures, submitting both matters to his consideration, in case that he should deem it expedient to direct an inquiry into the circumstances.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my letter to the Marquis Pezuela, and a copy of the Government Secretary's answer thereto, which refers to a conversation which he had had with me the day before the date of his note.

In that conversation the Secretary informed me, by direction of the Captain-General, that his Excellency had seen the correspondence and documents respecting the cooperation which the slave-traders are supposed to receive from the fishing establishments on the coast of Yucatan, as well as what it was stated took place with regard to the Indians; but that being in another territory, he did not think himself warranted to interfere, and that there were none of the Spanish vessels of war disposable for such service.

In general, the Secretary added, and he said that it was by order of the the Captain-General he did so, that in future it would be preferable and more agreeable if I were to make such communications, and all my denouncements of slave-trading affairs, verbally, instead of doing so in writing, for which purpose either his Excellency, or he, the Secretary, would at all times be ready to receive me.

I could not but observe that there was something in the manner of the Secretary which showed that it was anything but agreeable for them to receive any sort of communication from me upon the subject of the non-observance of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade: when I, at the moment inquired as to whether they had received information as to the landing of a cargo of Bozal negroes two days previously at Camarioca, as to which they had no notice as he said, but which disembarkation of 400 slaves from a schooner-rigged vessel, there is no doubt had been successfully effected, at the time and place mentioned.

What I consider as being quite ominous of future operations in slave-trading is, that the Secretary expressed his conviction, that notwithstanding the unceasing efforts and good intentions of his Excellency the present Captain-General, it was quite hopeless that he should be able either to hinder or put a stop to the Traffic.

Under these circumstances, I regret to express to your Lordship my apprehensions that the Slave Trade is about to be carried on to a great extent.

I have just heard, that another cargo, consisting of 300 odd, has been got safe into Zarza on the south side, and being on to an estate, according to penal law, they cannot now be taken away.

Without a general registration of the slaves first, in order to ascertain those already here, and the repeal of that clause in the penal law of Spain, which operates as a protection to the slave-trader, there is no hope of putting an end to the Traffic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 465.

Mr. Doyle to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Mexico, April 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith for your information copies of some despatches which I have received from Mr. Vice-Consul Shiels, by which you will perceive, that a vessel found abandoned at sea has been taken into the Island of Cozumel, on the Coast of Yucatan, and which vessel is supposed to have been engaged in the Slave Trade. You will also observe, that the grant made to certain Spanish subjects, to form fishing establishments in the Isla de Mugerres, is supposed to have been made use of for the purpose of carrying on with greater activity the Slave Trade between that point and the Island of Cuba.

I have considered it my duty to bring this matter to the attention of the Mexican Government, calling upon them to withdraw the grant, unless it was made under the express sanction of the Supreme Government, and even then to do so, if it should be found to have been, or that it may be, made use of for the purpose above-mentioned.

Perhaps much information might be derived on this subject, should any of Her Majesty's vessels of war be at the Havana and visit the island in question.

You will also observe the manner in which Mr. Shiels states that the unfortunate Indians made prisoners in the war of Castes, still going on in the Peninsula of Yucatan, are supposed to be sent as slaves to the Island of Cuba.

I have not failed to bring this point also before the serious attention of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the inclosed note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 465.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, April 12, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Excellency for such purposes as may be expedient, the inclosed copy of a despatch, dated the 2nd instant, and its inclosures, which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, by which your Excellency will perceive that a vessel which was found abandoned near the coast of Yucatan, had been taken into the Island of Cozumel, which vessel it is supposed had been engaged in the Slave Trade; and your Excellency will also observe, that a grant made to certain Spanish subjects to form fishing establishments on the coast and islands adjacent to the coasts of Yucatan, is supposed to have been made use of for the purpose of carrying on, with greater activity and security, the Slave Trade between that coast and the Island of Cuba.

I consider it my duty to bring this matter under your Excellency's notice, as well as the circumstances stated by Mr. Shiels, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Laguna de Terminos, with regard to the manner in which the unfortunate Indians who, made prisoners in the war of Castes—which is still going on in the Peninsula of Yucatan—are supposed to be sent as slaves to this island.

Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, suggests, that perhaps much information might be derived, should any of the British ships of war be at this place, and visit the coast and islands in question.

I regret that at present none of our ships of war should be available for that service. Your Excellency will, however determine as to whether the importance of the matters alluded to in Mr. Doyle's despatch, and its accompanying documents, is such as to require investigation in a similar manner, under your Excellency's orders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 465.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

Havana, April 17, 1854.

AFTER the conversation which I had the pleasure to have with your honour the day before yesterday it is unnecessary to say in writing, that, which in the name of his Excellency I informed you verbally; except to acknowledge on his part the receipt of your esteemed communication of the 12th of this month.

I send your Honour a copy of the Regulations relative to emancipados, as also those of the colonists which I promised you, and with this motive, I repeat, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 466.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 24th ultimo, transmitting copies of a note and of its inclosure, which your Lordship had received from M. de Comyn, the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires in London, in reply to your Lordship's request that he would communicate to your Lordship the particulars respecting the emancipados, which, as Mr. Backhouse informed your Lordship, had been sent to the Spanish Legation in London, by the Captain-General of Cuba.

In obedience to your Lordship's instruction, I shall proceed in conjunction with Mr. Backhouse to compare the details of the Captain-General's statement, with such information as may be in his and my possession with regard to the Emancipados, and transmit to your Lordship a joint report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 467.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 27, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 28th ultimo,* transmitting copies of a despatch and of its inclosures from Mr. Howard, Her Majesty's Minister at Rio Janeiro, containing information respecting the preparations making by the slave-traders at Loanda to ship cargoes of slaves for the Brazils and for the Island of Cuba,

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 655.

and, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction, I have communicated this information to the Captain-General of Cuba, in order that his Excellency may take such measures as he may deem expedient and fitting for the purpose of counteracting, in this island, the criminal projects of these slave-traders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 468.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 15.)

(Extract.)

Havana, April 27, 1854.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of correspondence which I have had with his Excellency the Captain-General, respecting the disembarkation of 650 Bozal negroes, on the south side of this island at a place called "Estero de Guasuma," between Zarsa and Manati, and also respecting another cargo previously landed not far distant from the same place, which consisted, as I understand, of about 300 slaves. I regret to have occasion to add, that still another cargo, the number of which I have been unable as yet to learn, was landed either in the district of Trinidad, or in that adjoining of Sancti Spiritu about ten days ago.

Your Lordship will observe in the Governor's Secretary's answer to my denouncement, that his Excellency had already removed the Captain Padaneo of Guasuma, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Sancti Spiritu, but these marks of displeasure are of little use in putting a stop to the Slave Trade. The Government must arrest and punish the instigators and the agents in some exemplary manner for engaging in the detestable Traffic, for it will be evident, that in this instance, the Captain's removal from office, after he had got and secured forty of the best negroes, (worth at least \$20,000) did not sensibly affect him; and that if the others of the Government officers were bribed equally liberally in proportion, there would remain to the interested in the adventure, some 550 slaves clear for sale; thus, upon the whole, turning out a most profitable affair, and encouraging them to enter into new speculations.

Inclosure 1 in No. 468.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, April 25, 1854.

IT is with regret that I have to report to your Excellency the landing of 650 Bozal negroes, on or about the 30th ultimo, at a place called "Estero de la Guasuma," opposite the place called "la Ysala."

The vessel in which these unfortunate human beings were brought, was burnt at a place called "El Tambor," between the Estero Guasuma and Punta Manati, and I understand, that as late as the 16th instant, the crew were still at an estate called "San Carlos" in the district of Jivaro.

At the same place there had recently before been another cargo of Bozal negroes landed, the particulars of which I have not been able to learn, but the fact itself may be implicitly relied upon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 468.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

April 26, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's communication of yesterday's date, relative to a disembarkation of Bozal negroes which took place on the 30th of past month, at the Estero de Guasuma jurisdiction of Gibaro.

His Excellency having informed himself thereof, charges me to say to your honour, as I do, that he already had confidential and trustworthy intelligence of this affair, as to which he has given convenient orders for its being inquired into, and in the meantime, having decreed the destitution of the Captain Pedanco, and appointed to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Sancti Spiritu, another chief of greater zeal and activity than he who was intrusted with that office.

I repeat, &c.
(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 469.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 15.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 28, 1854.

IT has been again my disagreeable duty, of this date, to denounce to the Captain-General, a disembarkation of 600 Bozal negroes, of the Congo nation, which was successfully effected a few days ago near to Cardenas; according to my informant, these victims were conveyed in the most scandalous manner to the district of Palmillos, and there deposited in the house of some relatives of the Licenciado, Don José Fresneda, which circumstance I have reported to his Excellency the Marquis de la Pezuela, so as that he may direct such measures as he may deem it expedient for bringing the guilty parties to punishment.

In my despatch of the 21st instant, I stated my apprehension that the Slave Trade was about to be carried on to a great extent, and the success which has attended the operations of those engaged in the abominable Traffic, goes to show how well founded were my suspicions. Experience has taught me, that whenever an opinion has been expressed, as emanating from the highest authority, of the hopelessness, or insurmountable difficulties for putting an end to the Traffic from the coast of Africa, it is then that the arrangements have been completed for carrying on the Slave Trade with success and impunity. There are not wanting rumours to the effect, that this is the case at present, and that means will be found for rendering abortive the humane and honourable intentions of the present Captain-General by a combination formed to deceive him, it is even said that the price of such infamy has been fixed at a rate for each slave introduced, as has been done upon former occasions.

Whilst there is such connivance, it is indeed hopeless that slave-trading will be put an end to; the love of illicit gain appears to be too inherent in these people.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 470.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter with its inclosures, addressed to the Duke of Newcastle, by Mr. Joseph Sturge, respecting the treatment of the coolies, or Chinese labourers, imported into Cuba; and I have to desire that you will report to me whether it is true, as stated in the inclosed letters, that the coolies in Cuba are publicly bought and sold, and treated like slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 470.

Mr. Joseph Sturge to the Duke of Newcastle.

My Lord Duke,

Birmingham, April 15, 1854.

A LETTER from a mercantile correspondent of the firms with which I am connected, dated New York, and received a few days ago contains a paragraph of which the inclosed is a copy. Though this information comes through the United States, it is, I believe, well known that English houses ship all or nearly all the coolies (as they are called) from China, not only to the British colonies, but to Cuba, and what are going to the Brazils. On the receipt of this letter, I wrote to a gentleman in Liverpool; connected with this trade, for information, and who I am persuaded would not be willingly a party either to slavery or the Slave Trade, and I inclose extracts from his reply. I am not surprised at the favourable view which my friend in Liverpool entertains of their treatment, but, from former experience I have no doubt that the poor creatures are made slaves for life in Cuba, and that he is mistaken in supposing they are much better off in Brazil, and there is abundant evidence that whatever may be the condition of a very few men of superior intelligence, the general condition of the coolies imported into the British colonies is lamentable. I will with pleasure give the Duke of Newcastle the names of my correspondents if he wishes it, for his private information, and I trust, if possible, that steps will be taken to rescue these innocent victims of deceit and treachery, and that prompt measures will be adopted to put an entire stop to this new and extensive Slave Trade and slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOSEPH STURGE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 470.

Extract from a letter addressed to Mr. Joseph Sturge, from New York.

I HAD occasion, lately, to make some inquiries about the treatment of the coolies at Havana. It is said they are manacled and sold by auction in the market-place without reserve. The buyers understand, that it is an out and out sale, and the idea of their redemption is not currently entertained. If you wish more details, you could write to Drake, Brothers, at Havana. I wish Frank were out of his share in the business, and as he talks of leaving soon, trust he will be. Of course the shippers don't know what passes, or like Pilate, they wash their hands of it, and don't wish to hear; but an application, or rather threat, to the Spanish Government would be effective.

They are being also shipped to Rio, &c.

Inclosure 3 in No. 470.

Extract from a letter addressed to Mr. Joseph Sturge from Liverpool.

I AM always very glad to hear from you, and especially on the interesting subject of coolie labour. It happens that a friend is writing beside me, who came overland last mail from San Francisco, who gave me the inclosed, which will interest you.

No coolies have as yet been imported into Brazil, but arrangements are being made for that purpose. I doubt not they would be treated kindly there.

I cannot bring myself to believe, that even in Havana (where there is little doubt they are treated cruelly) they are actually sold as slaves for life. The sale must be for the term of their indenture, which there is little doubt could generally be disposed of at a high profit.

Coolies are, to a certain extent, at least, speculated in like ordinary merchandize. To my knowledge, a cargo of coolies, on the way to Havana, was offered to an English house in a foreign port at 120 dollars (if I remember rightly) per head, by the owner, who assured this house, that, even at this price the cargo would yield a large profit in Havana. It is well known, that on arrival there, they are at once sold, and may pass through various hands during the period of their servitude.

On the other hand, in Jamaica, and the other English and West Indian Islands where slavery is abolished, and the claims of humanity are respected, the coolies are well treated during their engagement, and at its expiring, very generally embark in business, either in small shops, or as pedlars, and gradually acquire what enables them to return home with quite a little fortune. Their industry and activity contrast strongly with the free negroes.*

No. 471.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May, 31, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos on the west coast of Africa, containing information as to the state of the Slave Trade, and stating that he had received information of the fitting out of several slavers in Cuba and the United States.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 472.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing copies of the important Decrees with regard to slavery in Cuba, which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March, and which are intended to promote the employment of slaves in agricultural labour, the protection of free labourers coming from foreign countries, and the registration of slaves.

It is possible that the authorities of Cuba, even if they had the wish, may not have the power to prevent the proprietors of slaves from bringing forward for registration negroes who have been fraudulently introduced into Cuba in violation of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaties between Great Britain and Spain of

* We have clear evidence contrary to this.—J. S.

† No 1.

‡ No. 384.

1817 and 1835; and it must manifestly be difficult to ascertain after a long period of time has elapsed, under what circumstances each slave has been brought to a particular estate.

Many attempts to evade the Decree of Registration will of course be made; but I have no doubt, that as far as possible such attempts will be frustrated by the Captain-General of Cuba; the question, however, is of extreme importance, and you will, therefore, closely observe the measures that may be adopted for carrying that Decree into effect, and you will report to me the result.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 473.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship translation of a letter which I have received from M. Estevan, the Government Secretary, acknowledging the receipt of my letter to the Captain-General of the 28th ultimo, in which I denounced the disembarkation of 600 Bozal negroes which took place a few days before near Cardenas; and your Lordship will perceive that my letter was the first intelligence of this violation of the law and of the Treaties which had reached his Excellency—a circumstance not a little extraordinary, and which goes to prove, either the connivance of the local authorities or their total want of vigilance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 473.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, April 28, 1854.

I HAVE received intelligence upon which I think I can rely, that a few days ago a disembarkation of Bozal negroes was effected near Cardenas.

These unfortunate victims of the cupidity of the degraded parties interested in this expedition are, as I am informed, deposited in the house of some relations of the Licenciado Don José Fresnada in the Partido de Palmillas, and are mostly of the Congo nation from the coast of Africa, consisting of 600 in number.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 473.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, April 29, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General has received your Highness's communication of yesterday's date, relative to a disembarkation of Bozal negroes which was effected a few days ago in the jurisdiction of Cardenas, according to the information your Highness says you have received.

His Excellency having informed himself, desires me to say to your Highness, as I do, that this is the first notice he has received on the subject, but that in consequence he has issued the necessary orders for inquiring into this affair and to proceed against the guilty parties according to law.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 474.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 2, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 27th ultimo,* in which I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship that I had laid before his Excellency the Captain-General, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction, the information respecting the preparations making at Loanda for carrying on the Slave Trade in conjunction with parties in this island; I have now the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship a copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by the Government Secretary, M. Estevan, acknowledging the receipt of my communication upon the important subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of March, by which it appears that one of the agents named in the despatches, Don Salvador de Castro, who resided at Trinidad in this island, is already prisoner for being engaged in Slave Trade, and is undergoing his trial here before the Royal Audiencia.

The other person mentioned as having been arrested, Don Francisco Maester, is one of those indicated to me as being in the combination to deceive the Captain-General in all matters connected with slave-trading. Maester is a person of bad character, of intriguing abilities, and has, as I understand, had influence enough to obtain his liberation already, although there can be little or no doubt of the part he had in the transaction for which he was made prisoner.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 474.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, April 26, 1854.*

IN obedience to the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, in a despatch dated the 28th ultimo, transmitting copies of a despatch and of its inclosures which his Lordship had received from Mr. Howard, Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, containing information respecting the preparations making by the slave-traders at Loanda to ship cargoes of slaves for the Brazils and for the Island of Cuba; I hasten to communicate this information to your Excellency, in order that your Excellency may take such measures as you may deem expedient and fitting for the purpose of counteracting the criminal projects of the slave-traders in this island; and I have the honour of inclosing herewith to your Excellency copies of Mr. Howard's despatch and of its inclosures, which are referred to by Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 474.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, April 30, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General desires me to say to your Honour, as I do, that he has received your official letter of the 26th of this month, with copies of the communications which Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Rio Janeiro addressed to the Right Honourable Lord Clarendon, transmitted to you by his Lordship relative to the preparations which the slave-

traders at Loanda were making to send cargoes of slaves to Brazil and the Island of Cuba, in order that his Excellency might take such measures as he thought proper to counteract their criminal projects.

He has informed himself of these data, and will make use of them for the purpose indicated.

On my part, and in a friendly way I may tell your Honour, that Don Salvador Castro, one of those named in the information of the British Minister in Brazil, is prisoner in the jail of this city under trial at the instance of his Excellency before the Royal Audiencia, because of the capture of Bozal negroes which was effected in the jurisdiction of Trinidad in the beginning of March last; and lately Don Francisco Maester has been made prisoner at Matanzas for the same reason, but upon a different case.

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 475.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship, a copy of correspondence which I have just had with the Captain-General of this island upon the subject of a disembarkation of Bozal negroes, which, it was reported to me, had taken place a few days previous to the 3rd instant, at or near to Cabañas, said to have consisted of some 600 slaves.

The Government Secretary, by order of his Excellency, informs me that no information had reached them upon this subject, but he gives me an account of a suspicious pilot-boat-rigged schooner having been seen off Cayo Cruz del Padre on the 29th ultimo, and although said schooner is said to have proceeded to the eastward, in which direction the man-of-war steamer was sent after her, it is quite possible that she may have gone in the opposite direction and have effected the landing of her cargo at Cabañas to the westward of this capital.

But this correspondence has drawn my attention to a measure which was published here in the Government "Gazette" of yesterday, which provides for the registry of all the slaves upon the estates throughout this island, and which, Article Ist, authorizes the authorities, at any time within the period of a month after the "disembarkation of Bozal negroes, to enter the estates suspected, and to muster the slaves, &c., and that, as Article IInd, a means of proving in a clear and precise manner which will not admit of the false representations which are now practised as to the origin of the slaves, the only means of complying with the IXth Article of the Law of the 4th of March, 1845, which provides, that the proprietors of estates are not to be proceeded against or molested because of the origin of the slaves. The authorities after the 1st of August, when the crops are over, shall form lists of the dotation, with the names, nation, sex and age of the slaves, a duplicate of which is to be given to the owner or administrator and signed by both, and that it shall be the duty of the owner or administrator to furnish to the authority within three days, the alterations, whether diminution or augmentation which take place, with the name of the person from whom slaves have been acquired, as well as an account of the sales of the negroes, when any such have been effected."

"Article III. Any negroes found upon the estates who are not comprehended in the registry, shall be embargoed and declared free, after the corresponding proofs that they are Bozals, and the parties who had them thus unauthorizedly, will be subjected to the penalties imposed upon the auxiliaries and abettors of the prohibited Traffic, but if upon the examination, it turns out that they are not Bozals, they shall be returned to the owners upon whom a fine of fifty dollars shall be imposed for each negro in excess who is found upon the estate, of whom he has not given an account to the Captain Pedaneo, as prescribed.

"Art. IV. The Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, or other civil

authorities of the territories where disembarkations of Bozal negroes take place who do not place the information in the knowledge of the Government as soon as it comes to their knowledge, and in any event, before the expiry of twenty four hours after its occurrence, shall, for that reason alone, be removed from their employments if there be not charges against them of another kind, in which case they shall suffer besides the penalties which the competent tribunal may inflict.

“Art. V. As it is not possible to realise any disembarkation whatever without the connivance of the Pedaneos (local civil authorities), or at the least that these should be blamable in the eye of the law, in a degree equal to the participation of the deceit. Those within whose territory this shall be effected, if they do not apprehend all the Bozals, shall be liable for that reason only, to be deprived of their employment and rendered unfit to obtain any other.

“Art. VI. Those who engage, be they great or small in the prohibited Traffic in slaves, shall be governatively expelled the island for the term of two years, according to the faculty conferred on me by the laws of the Indies, independent of the responsibility which may attach to them in the process which may be raised if their connivance shall be proved.

“Signed by the MARQUIS DE LA PEZUELA.”

“Havana, May 3, 1854.

I have given the substance of this Decree, and I have the honour of transmitting herewith two copies of the “Official Gazette,” in which it has been published to the great consternation of the slave-traders, who were fully aware that a registration of slaves must above every other measure operate to the putting an end to their detestable Traffic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 475.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, May 3, 1854.

IT has been reported to me, that a few days ago a cargo consisting of some 600 Bozal negroes was landed at or near to Cabañas.

I have to request, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, that your Excellency will be pleased to acquaint me whether intelligence of this violation of the law has reached this Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 475.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

May 3, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received the communication of your Honour of this day, in which you inform him of the disembarkation of 600 Bozal negroes in the territory of Cabañas, as it has been reported to your Honour.

His Excellency informed thereof, charges me to say to your Honour, as I do, that as respects the landing indicated he has not received any intelligence, but his Excellency the Commandant-General of Marine informed him yester-

day, that by an official information from the Captain of the port of Cardenas, he had learnt that Don Lorenzo Toores, resident of that place, being with others his friends at a house on Cayo Cruz del Padre on the 29th day of April last, they were surprised in the night by fourteen or fifteen armed men in uniform with blue jackets who arrived at the Cay in a very long canoe, of great speed, who robbed them of all the provisions which they had there, and did the same at another house on the same Cay, proceeding immediately afterwards to the eastward. That on the morning of the same day the said Toores had seen at the distance of about seven miles to the north, a pilot-boat heavily rigged.

In consequence, his Excellency ordered the steamer of war "Bazan" to go out the same night to explore Cayo Piedra, and proceed as far as Cayo Frances, and in the event of not obtaining news, to return to Cardenas by the same route for the purpose of obtaining more particulars and act accordingly, but not to pass Cayo Frances, as it was not probable that a slaver would run down to the place where the suspicious vessel was seen so far to leeward, then to have the trouble of getting to windward with loss of time, to effect the disembarkation of negroes to the windward of Cayo Frances.

Respecting the private information which your Honour communicated to me on a separate paper relative to a suspicious launch, which it is to be supposed was in connection with the pilot-boat referred to, I have acquainted his Excellency of this, as your Honour wished, as well as about the schooner you mention to me, as being about to proceed from hence to the coast of Africa; but I am persuaded, and I believe your Honour will be so also, that with the dispositions which his Excellency has just decreed, and which have been published in the "Official Gazette" of to-day, the Traffic in Negroes in this island will be definitively and for ever put an end to.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 476.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 5, 1854.

HAVING occasion to denounce to the Captain-General of Cuba the Spanish schooner "*Manuela*," laying at a place in this harbour called Tallapiedra, Mora, master, which is being equipped and is now nearly ready to sail for the coast of Africa, to be employed in the Slave Trade: along with that denouncement, I addressed a note to the Secretary, a copy of which and of M. Estevan's answer I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship.

My object in thus writing to the Secretary was to ascertain whether it was intended to proceed at once with the registration of slaves, or that that important measure should be deferred until the 1st of August: because it is not quite clearly defined in the Bando or Order which was promulgated on the 3rd instant, of which I did myself the honour of inclosing two copies along with my despatch of yesterday's date, another copy of which I transmit herewith.

Your Lordship will perceive, by Mr. Secretary Estevan's answer, that the registration is to be gone on with immediately, but that it is not to be acted upon until the 1st of August, so as to give time for the approval or otherwise of this bold measure of the Marquis Pezuela, and it is even hinted that his removal might be the consequence, and the substitution of some other measure by the Spanish Government, between this time and the month of August.

I have upon several occasions alluded to the expediency of a general registration of the slaves in this island, as being an indispensable preliminary measure to the strict enforcement of a modified penal law, which did not, like that of March 1845, operate the protection of slave-traders, who might succeed in getting their negroes on to the estates, and I ventured to point out, that besides being a sure means of detecting any newly imported slaves, the registration

would protect the honest planter in the possession of those labourers who had not been improperly come by.

It seems to me that his Excellency the Marquis de la Pezuela is in earnest to put an end to the Slave Trade, now and for ever, as the Secretary expresses himself; and I hope, that all the influence of Her Majesty's Government will be used to obtain a confirmation of these measures, and sustain his Excellency's determination to put down the Slave Trade, against the machinations of all the host of slavers who will no doubt do their best to obtain his removal from this Government, and if possible to have the Bando of the 3rd instant recalled or altered to suit their nefarious purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 476.

Consul-General Crawford to the Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba.

My dear Sir,

Havana, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE received your Honour's letter of yesterday, in which you have done me the favour of replying to mine of the same date.

I am at this moment occupied in transmitting to Her Britannic Majesty's Government copies of the "Gazette" of yesterday, in which are inserted his Excellency's measure referred to by your Honour at the conclusion of your letter to which I am now replying.

In this terminant order of the Marquis Pezuela, my Government will see the strong and authorized resolution of that of Her Catholic Majesty to put an end to (definitively and for ever) the Traffic in negroes in this island.

I only wish to know, with regard to the registration in general of the slaves, or the lists of the dotations of the estates, whether it is intended to proceed immediately with their formation for the current year; because, if this measure is not carried into operation until the 1st of August, there may be very extensive introductions of Bozal slaves in the meantime, according to what I have been able to learn relative to expeditions which from one moment to another are expected.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 476.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

Havana, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE to say to your Honour in answer to your favour of to-day, that the list of the slaves on the estates are to be made immediately; and the examinations, from the 1st of August of this year. This delay cannot be shortened, as it is a measure which fundamentally alters the law, General Pezuela has thought proper to appoint that period, in case the Government should remove him from his command, and order this measure to be suspended, because by that time some other might arrive, and it was consistent with his delicacy to proceed in that way.

With regard to the other expeditions which are spoken of, if they come during this short interval, they will be persecuted with all the activity which depends upon his Excellency.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

No. 477.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship two copies of official documents which have been published here by authority of his Excellency the Captain-General, showing that he has been authorized to put forth the Bando of the 3rd instant, referred to in my despatch of 4th instant.

It is to be hoped that the registry of slaves being completed, there will be a faithful performance of their duty by the local authorities, and if so, the death-blow has been given to the Slave Trade in all time coming, but the utmost vigilance of the supreme authority will be required to counteract the machinations and plans of men so long accustomed to and so thoroughly versed in the ways of corruption, as those are who now at last see a means of putting an end to their nefarious practices.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 478.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith, inclosed to your Lordship, a translation of a circular, dated the 18th of January last, which was addressed by the Captain-General, Marquis de la Pezuela, to certain corporations, committees, and influential individuals upon the important subject of agricultural labour in this island, with a view to avail himself of the experienced opinions of the various bodies and parties who were best calculated to report to his Excellency, for the information of Her Catholic Majesty's Government.

And having obtained that which was submitted by the Committee upon White Population, in answer to the Captain-General, I have the honour of laying a translation thereof before your Lordship, as being the best of the reports which were made on that occasion, and that which it would appear has been acted upon in the recent Royal Order for the regulation of colonists or free labourers from Spain, from China, and from Yucatan, but excluding those from the coast of Africa.

The other reports were, with the exception of one or two, altogether conclusive against the introduction of African apprentices, and those exceptions were from too notoriously known slave-traders to merit the slightest attention; one was wholly in favour of the African apprentice system, the other advocated their introduction, but that they should be wholly, or if not, in a large proportion, females, which, from the long experience of the Slave Trade he has had, he must have very well known could only have been done by the exercise of the greatest violence and barbarity at the coast, which no doubt his agents would have readily undertaken to perform.

The corporations and established commissions were, however, alive to the danger which would arise from the introduction of numbers of Africans of the same nations, who, at the expiry of their contracts, would become free, and who, during their period of service, mixing with their countrymen in a state of slavery, might naturally be expected to set them thinking of their hopeless condition, which could hardly fail to instigate them to insurrection at the first opportunity; a

result so manifestly to be apprehended, that the Spanish Government must have found it necessary to abandon all thoughts, at once and for ever, of attempting to introduce the African apprenticeship system in their West India possessions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 478.

Circular.

(Translation.)

Havana, January 18, 1854.

DESIROUS of reporting to Her Majesty with all exactness respecting everything connected with the labourers applicable in Cuba to the work of agriculture, I address myself to you that you may state to me whatever occurs to you upon this subject. Studying the condition of the slave race with respect to the interior and exterior, their ability to reproduce sufficiently to supply in part the wants of cultivation which are not provided for by the system at present established for colonists, and the propriety of adopting, or otherwise, the practice of other nations with regard to the Slave Trade, to the introduction of African apprentices; and, finally, as to the way in which this might be established, and whatever else occurs to you in a matter of such great importance.

(Signed) THE MARQUIS DE LA PEZUELA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 478.

Report.

(Translation.)

THE Committee of White Population, to whom the Captain-General's letter of the 18th January last was addressed, desiring that Royal Board to manifest to his Excellency whatever might occur to it on the subject of hands suitable to the work of our agriculture, studying the situation of the slave race in its interior and exterior (in all its branches) its capability of reproducing the needful to the wants of cultivation, not supplied by the present system of colonization, the necessity of adopting or not the introduction of African apprentices, and, in fine, the form in which this could be established.

Such is the programme of the diverse and important questions comprehended in the report required, and upon which we shall proceed to deliver frankly and honestly our humble opinion.

The basis, or foundation which has hitherto been made use of to show the necessity of the colonization of men capable of supporting the toils of our agriculture, has been reduced to the simple enunciation of one word, which, continually repeated, and by all our planters, has been placed beyond doubt, and has established itself as a plain truth. From such ideas, there occurs, to the investigating mind, the absolute necessity of ascertaining, whether in Cuba, there is a want or not of hands applicable to its agriculture, and if these hands can be reproduced sufficiently so that our products may meet the requirements of the consuming markets, and that the equilibrium of this part of commerce be preserved. The opinion that in Cuba the labouring hands are inadequate to fill completely these wants, is not at all doubtful, because infinite facts could be adduced in its support, and because the scarcity of hands, shown by the prices if purchased, and the rate of wages, are the most eloquent proofs of the scarcity which is so much to be deplored. What number of slave labourers are destined, in Cuba, to the exclusive purposes of agriculture? How many estates are there for this purpose? What is their area, or rather, what is the superficial extent of ground which these estates measure? What is the production now, what was that of the last century, and of the first years of the present one, comparing the proportional force employed in each epoch? What number of slaves are occupied in domestic service and other industrial undertakings? What, and how

many free colonists are there who have been introduced for this purpose? And what is the number of natives who are fit for these same labours?

With the data which statistics could furnish, comprehended in these particulars, it is, without doubt, that the totality of these labouring hands would prove the fact of their being insufficient to produce, with facility, the amount of agricultural products which our consuming markets require.

The situation of the slave race of this country with regard to home and abroad, is a question of grave and great transcendency. The want of data approaching exactitude, obliges me to refer to the most distinguished opinions, and from them we might deduce, that in Cuba there exist more than 400,000 African slaves. This number more than suffices for us to admit the notorious disproportion between their and our races; a disproportion greater still if we estimate, as we ought, the great number of native and liberated or manumitted negroes existing in the country, a disproportion which threatens continually, and maintains in us a lively uneasiness with regard to our tranquillity and as to our future.

If some are of opinion, that this same disproportion brings with it a guarantee of order and of union, we think very differently, because this multitude of abject men may, some day, become instruments for the execution of the disorganizing plans of demagogues, and very susceptible of giving rise to the delusive ideas which a single word could awaken in them, the instincts of their emancipation.

It is not many years since some sparks of this fire found their way into some of our towns, and extended themselves with electric rapidity over our fields, and if, indeed, the intelligence, the activity, and the material and moral force of the Government was able to stop in time that impetuous current, and to impede its terrible consequences, not on this account did our fears cease to be very great, for they can only be clearly felt to their full extent in face of the danger itself.

To deny the predisposition of the slave race to break the chains of the master's power, would be an error, as is proved by facts which the history of the world presents to us.

To augment the number of the men of this race, is undoubtedly to increase their strength, render easier the execution of deeds which are possible, and consequently augment our risk and fears, rendering our dangers more imminent. Until now, we have referred very superficially to those dangers with regard to the interior situation of the slave race, but they assume gigantic proportions the moment we turn our attention to the thousands of men of the same race all around us, and amongst whom there figures an empire which, sooner or later, must aspire to spread its power and dominion.

Nor is it the first time that this fact has been announced as probable, since, in the delirium and exaltation of the ideas of the abolitionists, they have put forth that it would be easily accomplished.

The published works to that effect are neither so few nor so secret but that they are within the reach of all the proprietors, the greater part of whose fortunes depend upon the produce they obtain from the labour of that race, as well as from the capital represented by those labourers.

The Island of Cuba, now rich and flourishing, may maintain the agreeable spectacle of its increase and well-being, if the circle of the African race be kept within its proper bounds, and the immigration or colonization of individuals and families of our own race is extended without restriction, otherwise, the day may come when, amidst the rubbish and ruins, our fortunes, our lives, and our hopes may be swallowed up for ever.

By this means, so disastrous an end being prevented or guarded against, the number of slaves is sufficient for them to reproduce sufficiently to supply, in a great measure, our agricultural labour, provided always, that the system of work, of food, of order and morality, be extended with all the improvements which have produced such satisfactory results in other countries.

What has happened in the States of the American Confederation is not unknown to us; at the time of their independence, they counted few more slaves than what now exist in the Island of Cuba, and now in those regions they exceed 4,000,000!

This is owing to the system of preservation and reproduction which is there established, a system which we do not consider as impossible to introduce here, with some modifications, and the results would be at least equal, for the climate

is more analogous to the nature of the Africans, and our treatment is milder and even more humane.

With regard to the system until now established to obtain colonists applicable to agriculture, opinions are very various particularly amongst those who suffer or who are advantaged by its effects, but this very variability contributes to prove, that the system in practice does not answer its object, but presents difficulties and inconveniences which are worthy the attention of observers; but in this respect, the Superior Government of the island has facilitated colonization without the obstacles, impediments, and exactions, always attendant upon monopoly and exclusiveness. In this corporation there are works of much value upon this important question, which might be condensed and submitted to the high consideration of his Excellency the Governor Captain-General.

From these antecedents we deduce, that far from any introduction of African apprentices being advisable, they would produce evil and injury of the greatest consideration and transcendancy; and that this Commission, as well because of its institution as by its own convictions, deem it proper to report to his Excellency, the Governor and Captain-General, that under no consideration is the system of apprenticeship acceptable; and that in this case, his powerful influence should be used in the negative—an influence the more powerful because of his notorious rectitude and wisdom.

With regard to the introduction of African apprentices, it would bring with it evils of the greatest consideration. We have already indicated those which would arise from the agglomeration of individuals of the same race, the majority of whom are subjected to the dominion of another of much less number. The desire to undermine the rights of the master's authority slightly noticed, would be exasperated by the natural sympathies and comparison which would be made by the Africans in their respective conditions—the one free, the other slaves—being of the same origin, are circumstances which would move the reason of beings of even more obtuse understanding.

If we please to overlook what is shown up to this point; if we please to overlook the consequences of the abuses which might be introduced by human cupidity under cover of the apprenticeship system; if, finally, we please to overlook the species of tutelage which would be attempted over us by a nation strong, of immense resources, and not well-intentioned owing to certain or presumed motives and pretexts, and the inconveniences of the suspicions which would arise in others, there can be no doubt but that we should stumble against rocks which it would be difficult to remove, for no sooner would the period of this apprenticeship be accomplished, than our fields and towns would be full of these free negroes, who, if they did not spread destructive ideas, would at least set a pernicious example, and instantly relax the subordination and discipline of our slaves. Nor can we ever figure to ourselves that the labour of the free African can equal that of the slave, nor exceed that of the white race.

The system, then, which now occupies us, far from promising any benefit, we would change it for one diametrically opposite, that is to say, we would seek for the means which would operate upon the minds of the free negroes to induce them to transport themselves to Africa or anywhere else far away from Cuba and its coasts.

No. 479.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon—(Received June 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 22, 1854.

THE general registration of the slaves, which has been provided for by the Proclamation or Bando published here on the 3rd instant, is being proceeded with: but in the meantime, cargo upon cargo of slaves continue to arrive and be introduced at both sides of the island, it being understood by the slave-traders that there is not to be a strict observance of the IXth Article of the Penal Law until the 1st of August, so that as many Bozal negroes as may be landed and got safely on to the estates in the meantime are protected by that clause, and consequently there is almost an unrestricted importation of slaves, which

doubtless will be continued up to the date when the visitations are to be authorised, after the registrations have been completed.

Your Lordship's information as to the corrupt practices of those in this island whose duty it should be to prevent the disembarkation of slaves, will enable you to form an estimate of the amount of dependence to be placed upon them under these circumstances, and it will therefore not be very surprising that I state to your Lordship the fact, that the price of such men's dishonour is now 5 doubloons for each Bozal negro so introduced; and I understand that there are a great many expeditions to arrive.

I think it proper also to state to your Lordship that I have had several conversations with planters upon the subject of the recent enactments, especially as to their operating the suppression of the Slave Trade, and I regret to be obliged to agree with them in the opinion, that means will very easily be devised, in connivance with the officers, to render these measures abortive, and that unless honest men can be found to carry them into effect, slaves will be introduced as heretofore, only that the planters will have to pay for the concealment of their newly-imported labourers at the periods of inspection, of which they will have timely notice from the officers, and all will go on as before.

This, my Lord, it must be confessed, is a lamentable conclusion to arrive at, but I am very apprehensive that nothing better will result, for the reasons which the planters have given, and will no doubt be made use of by them, to enable them to retain their recently-purchased slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 480.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 6th ultimo, in approval of my proceedings in the matter of the Spanish brig "*Destino*." That vessel, I have learnt, proceeded from New Orleans with a cargo of cotton, and was cleared from thence for Barcelona. Her denouncement as being intended to be employed in the Slave Trade, there is good reason to believe, induced parties here to alter their determination and send her upon a lawful voyage; and it is to be hoped that the recent measures of this Government will operate to deter her owners from carrying out their scheme of employing the "*Destino*" as a slaver.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 481.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 29.)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 24, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 15th of April, transmitting, for my information, copies of a note which your Lordship had received from M. de Comyn, the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires at the Court, and of the answer which your Lordship was pleased to return to it, respecting the capture, by these authorities, of 600 Bozal negroes, respecting the wreck of a vessel which foundered off Cayo Verde, and which I had alluded to in my letter to the Captain-General of the 12th of last January, as being, possibly, that of one of two vessels which had previously landed cargoes of slaves at Sagua.

I have read over these inclosures with great interest, and have noticed M. de Comyn's observation with regard to the character of the denouncements of slave-trading, which it has been my disagreeable duty to make so repeatedly to the Governors Captains-General of this island.

I beg to assure your Lordship, that in the difficult position in which I have

the honour of being placed, a due regard to the proper performance of my duties has ever been combined with the most scrupulous examination of the authenticity of all information by me received, previous to its being acted upon; and I think that I may, with great propriety, refer to the whole period of my service, in proof of the circumspection of my conduct in this respect, and in contradiction of M. de Comyn's observation in his note of the 3rd ultimo to your Lordship, copy of which I have at this moment before me.

When it is considered that the nature of the operations of the slave-traders required the observance by them, and by all connected with their guilty practices, of the closest secrecy, it cannot but be admitted that I have been successful in an extraordinary degree in obtaining correct information, which has, in a very considerable degree, operated to expose and check the machinations of the slavers and of those who connived at their unlawful proceedings.

I have to express to your Lordship my grateful acknowledgments for your refutation of M. de Comyn's insinuation with regard to the case alluded to in his note.

And your Lordship may be assured that I shall by every means endeavour to maintain the good and friendly relations which now exist between his Excellency the Captain-General and myself, as well as that he should be encouraged in the exertions which he is making for the suppression of the Slave Trade. Under these circumstances, I shall exercise the greatest caution with regard to denouncements of disembarkations of slaves.

His Excellency will allow me to go to him personally upon any occasion of doubt; and as I am thoroughly persuaded that the Marquis de la Pezuela will, if not interfered with, put an end to the African Slave Trade in this island, your Lordship may be assured of my most hearty cooperation.

No. 482.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 29. 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship that the Bozal negroes which were denounced by me to the Captain-General on the 28th ultimo as having been landed near to Cardenas have been seized, and will be declared emancipados.

The measures adopted by order of the Marquis de la Pezuela having led to the discovery of the whole of the circumstances of the disembarkation of the slaves, and their being kept sight of from the place of landing until their arrival at the estate where they were taken, and where, according to the reading of the Penal Law, they were thought to be safe, his Excellency took a different view of that clause which says, that slaves once safely lodged on any of the properties are not to be molested, and considering that these Bozal negroes (who from their landing in violation of the law and of the Treaties, had been watched until they were got on to an estate) were in the nature of a marked contraband, which for that reason may be taken wherever it may be found, he ordered them to be seized and removed from the property where they were, and to be placed for adjudication before the Royal Audiencia Pretorial.

That tribunal, as I understand, was disposed to adhere to the letter of the Penal Law of March, 1845, and to the reading of the ninth clause in favour of the owners of the estate, but his Excellency's argument was supported by the Assessor, and the proofs of these Bozals being marked contraband, as suggested by the Captain-General, were so complete that the exception of the ninth clause of the Penal Law has been found to be inapplicable, so the whole cargo will be declared emancipados; a result which is wholly attributable to and must be considered as an undeniable indication of the firm purpose of his Excellency to put an end now, and it is to be hoped for ever, to the African Slave Trade in this Island.

The effect of the proceedings of the Government in this case has been quite to destroy the hopes of the slave-traders; they are in despair as to their expeditions on the way from Africa, and which it is said are numerous, and they see no safety for them, even if they succeed in getting them landed, which

cannot but operate to deter them from entering into new expeditions; but it will no doubt set their wits at work to try whether by intrigues and misrepresentations they cannot obtain their purposes, and by the use of morbid influences bring about the substitution of a chief more suitable to their views than the nobleman who now rules the destinies of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 483.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 4th of May, inclosing copies of the important order which was issued by the Captain-General of Cuba, on the 3rd of May, prescribing regulations for the discovery of illegally imported negroes, and for the punishment of the authorities of any districts of the island where negroes shall be landed without official notice of such landings having been communicated to the Captain-General.

I have to acquaint you that I have instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid to express to the Spanish Government, the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the determination thus shown by the Marquis de la Pezuela in regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and to say that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that the Marquis will receive from the Spanish Government the support and encouragement which he is justly entitled to expect.

Her Majesty's Government sincerely hope that the good intentions of the Captain-General may not be frustrated by the local and other authorities whose duty it will be to give effect to them.

Attempts of every kind that can be devised by inveterate habits and sordid interest, will, beyond doubt, be made to evade the order of the 3rd of May; but if the penalties announced in that order are rigidly applied, much permanent good may be expected.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 484.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th of May, reporting that a cargo of Bozal negroes, which had been landed at Cardenas in April last, had been by order of the Captain-General pursued on to the estate whither they had been conveyed, and that the negroes had, by his Excellency's orders, been seized and declared emancipados. And I have in reply to instruct you to take an opportunity of expressing to the Marquis de la Pezuela the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the bold and energetic measures he is adopting for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and which reflect upon his Excellency the greatest honour.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 485.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 28, 1854.

IT is with the greatest satisfaction that I do myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship the unceasing efforts of his Excellency the Marquis de la Pezuela to put an end to the Slave Trade, which has of late been carried on with great vigour, and frequently successful disembarkations.

But the Captain-General has not been satisfied that such flagrant disobedience of his orders should be unnoticed, or should have the shield which such infractions of the Law and of the Treaties have hitherto availed of by the wording of the Penal Law, and therefore his Excellency gave orders to capture all the recently introduced Bozal negroes, wherever they might be found.

Under these orders, I understand that nearly all the most recently imported Africans have been captured, and Colonel Don Santiago Gurrea, who is employed upon this service, has displayed great energy and activity in the execution of his duty, by following up the traces of such Bozals and proceeding with their capture.

He has therefore been authorized, that if necessary, he may pass from one district into another; an authority which I understand he has exercised with considerable efficacy, and in a manner which has merited the entire approbation of his Excellency.

I hasten to acquaint your Lordship of these energetic measures, which cannot fail to have a most salutary effect, and convince the slave-traders that this Government is determined to put an end to the Traffic and enforce the observance of the Treaties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 486.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Lordship that I last night received a communication from Commander George Hancock, of Her Majesty's ship "Espiègle," a copy of which I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship.

Her Majesty's ship "Espiègle" sailed from this port on the 27th instant, and was running to the westward in company with the Spanish brig of war "Alcedo," when, off Bahia Honda, Commander Hancock observed a brig with no colours hoisted, laying in under the land; he therefore stood close in, but not seeing any person on board, and no notice having been taken of a gun which was fired, they sent a boat on board. She proved to be the "Grey Eagle" of Philadelphia, and was undoubtedly a slaver from which a cargo had very recently been landed.

There was no one on board, no papers, colours, nor anything to show under what flag she had been navigating. Nor was there any evidence to show that she had been taken by the authorities, nor any town in sight from the place the brig was fallen in with. Under these circumstances, Commander Hancock took possession of her, and he states, that he might have brought her away without any interference, but as it was late he preferred, after he had put on board an officer and a prize crew, to lay by her during the night. In the morning however, the Commander of the "Alcedo" stated to Commander Hancock that the brig had been captured by the Spanish authorities of Bahia Honda with 205 negroes on board who were prisoners at that place, and under

these circumstances she was given up to the "Alcedo" to be brought to this port for adjudication.

I learn from the Captain-General that the slaver referred to, landed her cargo consisting of some 400 Bozal negroes at Ortigoza, that the negroes were in a wood, but that they dispersed, and up to the latest advices, only the number mentioned of 200 and odd had been secured.

I expect the "Espiègle" will return here to have the circumstances cleared up, as there seems to be something curious in the leaving the slaver without any person on board after she had been captured, and the slaver crew, who it is stated made their escape, could hardly have done so in the ship's boats, so that there appears to me to be a strong suspicion that all is not right in this business.

I have, &c.

(Signed)) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 486.

Commander Hancock to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir, H.M.S. "*Espiègle*," off the Morro of Havana, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that having sailed from this port on the morning of the 27th instant, intending to proceed direct to Jamaica, I fell in with the Spanish brig of war "Alcedo" off the tableland of Mariel, and as I had previously arranged with her Commander that in the event of our meeting at sea, we would try our speed, running down the coast together, we both made all sail in company, and continued our trial until 3:20 p.m., when Her Majesty's brig "Espiègle" being somewhat ahead and considerably in shore of the "Alcedo" I observed a suspicious-looking brig at anchor very near to the shore at the entrance of the small creek of Ortigosa, and having hauled in as close as I could venture and perceiving no one on board of her, and no colours flying, I fired a gun; my ensign and pendant being already hoisted, but as no notice was taken of this, and there was every appearance of the vessel having been hastily abandoned (such as her sails being loose and partially unbent, her running rigging cut and hanging in all directions), I sent a lieutenant on board to examine her; she proved to be the "*Grey Eagle*" of Philadelphia, had just landed a cargo of negroes, had all the articles on board necessary to convict her of being engaged in the illicit Traffic, and every evidence of her having been very lately and very hurriedly abandoned, and moreover there being no appearance of any authorities having taken possession of her, the British colours were hoisted at 4:30 p.m., I informed the Commander of the Spanish brig of the circumstance, and of my intention to take possession of her, and convey her to the Havana, to which he that night offered no objection.

It being too late to get her out that evening, I kept a strong guard on board her, and laid off till morning.

No person from the shore approached her, until the English colours had been flying for two hours, when a small boat put off from the shore to communicate with the officer in charge; but as I had given him orders to allow no one on board until the morning, when I myself would come in, the boat was ordered to keep off. At 5 a.m., on the 28th, I went in myself, and on my way passed a small boat conveying a person off to the "Alcedo" (which had kept company during the night) who stated himself to be the captain of the port. I desired him to make his statement to the Spanish Commander; but informed him that I was going to bring the brig out before the sea-breeze set in, and that afterwards I would meet him on board the "Alcedo" and hear what explanation he had to offer. Having done so, I repaired on board the "Alcedo," where the Commander gave me the letter, a copy of which I inclose; and although the circumstances partook of a doubtful character, I resolved that no act of mine should give just cause of offence to the Government of a state in amicable relations with Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I therefore having obtained a certificate of the circumstances above related from the Commander of Her Catholic Majesty's brig "Alcedo," a duplicate of which I have already inclosed to you, I delivered her in charge of a Spanish officer and boat's crew, with the understanding that she was to be immediately taken to this port for adjudication.

I cannot help repeating my conviction, that had I not interfered, the vessel would have left the anchorage, as there was no one present to prevent her crew returning and taking her to sea; but for the lateness of the hour, and my not knowing the pilotage of the coast, I should have had her alongside my ship before the boat I mentioned as having visited her the previous evening, had started from the shore.

Under these circumstances, I have thought it advisable to return to this port, in order to furnish any information which may be required, and to request that you will bring these circumstances to the knowledge of the proper authorities, in order that full inquiry may be made into this case; for though I consider it my duty to have acted as I have done, I still think that in reality the vessel herself is, honestly speaking, my prize, for had I not taken her in charge when I did, she would certainly have sailed probably for a second cargo.

I hope to be able to leave again as early as possible in pursuance of my former intention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. HANCOCK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 486.

The Commander of the "Alcedo" to Commander Hancock.

(Translation.)

THE brig manned by you yesterday afternoon at Ortigosa, was captured on the night of the 25th current by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda, as well as 205 negroes which she carried.

That vessel shall go under my custody to Havana to be delivered over to the competent authorities.

Which I place in your knowledge for your information and satisfaction.
God preserve, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL FRNZ. FLORES.

On board the aforesaid brig at sea, June 28, 1854.

Inclosure 3 in No. 486.

Certificate.

*Her Catholic Majesty's brig "Alcedo," N.E. coast of Cuba,
Lat. 23° 3' N., Long. 83° 7' W., June 28, 1854.*

I HEREBY certify that Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Espiegle" being in company with me on the afternoon of yesterday June 27th, whilst running down the coast, did observe a brig with no colours hoisted, anchored close in under the land, and having stood close in and seeing there was no one on board, she having the British flag and pendant flying, fired a gun, of which no notice was taken, a boat was then sent on board at 4:15 P.M., and she proved to be the "Grey Eagle" of Philadelphia, was undoubtedly a slaver, and had only a few hours previously landed a cargo of negroes, there being no evidence or even appearance of any authorities having taken possession of her, and though only very lately left, there was no trace of papers, colours, or anything to show under what flag she had been navigating, and there appearing no town in the vicinity, the

British flag was hoisted, and an armed party sent on board under command of a lieutenant; several boats had communicated between the "Espiègle" and the prize, and it was not until after 6 p.m. that any one attempted to communicate from the shore, though persons were seen about the beach. It being too late to bring her out that evening, the "Espiègle" remained off all night, and in the morning the captain of the port, Don Luis Miguel de Castanedo, having represented to me that the said brig was a slaver, and had been captured by the Spanish authorities at Bahia Honda, on the 26th of June, at 2 A.M., with 205 negroes on board, who he stated are now in the fort of Bahia Honda, I communicated these facts to the British Commander, who has given her up to me to be forthwith brought into the port of Havana for adjudication.

(Signed) MANUEL FRNZ. FLORES,
Commanding H.C.M.'s brig "Alcedo."

No. 487.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 20th ultimo, transmitting a copy of a letter, with its inclosures, which had been addressed to the Duke of Newcastle by Mr. Joseph Sturge, respecting the treatment of coolies or Chinese labourers, imported into Cuba.

In obedience to your Lordship's desire that I should report to your Lordship whether it is true, as stated in the letter, that the coolies in Cuba are publicly bought and sold, and treated as slaves; I have the honour of stating, that the information upon which Mr. Sturge appears to have founded his letter to the Duke of Newcastle is wholly unfounded with respect to their being "manacled and sold by auction in the market place;" no such thing has ever been done here, nor would it be permitted by the Spanish authorities.

The Chinese labourers brought here have come under contracts to serve for eight years; their pay generally is two dollars a-month, they receive two suits of clothing annually, and their rations are also stipulated for in their contracts.

They are (no matter by whom imported) from the moment of their arrival under the immediate protection of the Government, and the punctual observance of their contracts is guaranteed to them by the supreme authority of the island. They are subject to the conditions of the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March last, both as regards the obligations of their employers towards them, and theirs towards their employers.

In the prescribed regulations for colonists or free labourers, there is ample protection for them, and the discipline is mild, easily to be borne by the well behaved, but at the same time sufficiently strict to enforce obedience of the unruly.

The transfer of the colonists or free labourers, at any time during the period of their contracts, is permitted; but as that can only be done with the previous consent of the colonist, so there can be no traffic in the way of transfer by public sale.

The free labourer, according to the Regulations of the 22nd of March, a copy of which your Lordship did me the honour of transmitting along with your Lordship's despatch of 31st ultimo,* are subjected to regular and moderate working hours, and in other respects are to be well cared for. Those who were introduced under contract with the Junta de Fomento, or Board of Trade, by Messrs. Villodo Wardrop and Co., and distributed to the planters, cost the Government 125 dollars each, which the employers of these colonists must repay, besides in all things fulfilling the conditions of pay, clothing, and rations to the labourers, during the period of their eight years' contract.

Those who have been introduced subsequently have no guaranteed sum from the Government of the island, and the importer delivers over the labourers to their employers upon such terms as they may be able to agree, but the sums paid for them to the parties who have engaged in these speculations being in considera-

* No. 472.

tion of the services of the labourers during the whole period of their eight years' contract, are of course, wholly irrespective of the terms and obligations of the employers towards the colonists or free labourers as regards pay, clothing, and rations stipulated for in the separate agreements of each, a copy of which they are entitled to have, every one of them in their own possession, according to the Regulations.

I can hardly imagine that it is possible that any of the employers of the Chinese should imagine they have any title to the services of those in their employ, beyond the terms of their original contracts; but I think it exceedingly probable that many of them will be anxious to engage their services anew at the expiration of their present engagements, and will pay them considerably more wages, because of their good behaviour and intelligence.

The experience of the Chinese labourers up to this period has been generally, although not universally, satisfactory, and all that have been imported have been eagerly sought after at from 150 dollars to 170 dollars each. A certain M. Pereda, a Spanish merchant of this place, is now the only person engaged in this trade, but it is open to any body, under the regulations of the Royal Decree of 22nd of March.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 488.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo,* transmitting for my information a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos on the west coast of Africa, containing information as to the state of the Slave Trade, and stating that he had received information of the fitting out of several slavers in Cuba and the United States. There can be no doubt that there were very extensive preparations some time ago, and that many vessels were fitted out and sent from the United States, as well as some from this island, to the coast of Africa, for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade in connection with parties here and elsewhere in Cuba.

I shall not fail to make use of Consul Campbell's information if an opportunity offers, but any vessels with slaves which might have sailed, or were about leaving Lagos, or the Bights of Benin so long ago as the end of March, would, in all probability have arrived on the coast of this island by the middle or at the end of May, the very latest; and, therefore, Mr. Consul Campbell's information, which reached me on the 22nd instant in your Lordship's despatch to which I have now the honour of replying, would hardly answer the purposes of preventing the landing of such cargoes here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 489.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 31st ultimo,† transmitting a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing copies of the important Decrees with regard to slavery in this island which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March, and which are intended to promote the employment of slaves in agricultural labour, the protection of the free labourers coming from other countries, and the registration of slaves.

* No. 471.

† No. 472.

I quite coincide with your Lordship in the opinion that it will be extremely difficult for the authorities to prevent the undue registration of slaves who have been fraudulently introduced into this island in violation of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaties between Great Britain and Spain of 1817 and 1835, and it will be also next to impossible to ascertain, after a long period of time has elapsed, under what circumstances each slave has been brought to a particular estate.

A great and most important end has been gained by the obtaining of a general registration, which will fix hereafter the numbers of the slaves, with a view to the entire prevention of the introduction of more, and perhaps it may be deemed expedient to accept without a very severe scrutiny the titles which each proprietor will no doubt be prepared with at the time of registration. In order to carry out so great a measure as this is, in a community like that of this island, it would be politic not to create any alarm that could possibly be avoided, and I have understood that many of the most respectable planters and proprietors will present their own registries, which will be accepted by the officers constituted, so as that the owners of slavers may not be subjected to annoyance in the drawing up of the registrations.

I do not think, however, that any attempts will be made to evade the Decree of registration altogether, although there will no doubt be all sorts of false titles produced by the proprietors of slaves to obtain the registration, without which, hereafter, nothing can protect them, if the laws are properly carried into effect.

At the same time I must express my conviction that if the titles of the slave-owners in general, were so scrutinised as to entitle them to registry of their slaves introduced previous to the year 1820 only, the greater part of the slaves in this island would not be included in the general registration lists which are now being formed under the Royal Decree of 22nd of March last; but at the same time it is to be observed, that such a scrutiny would give rise to endless trouble and disputes, as well as to great discontent amongst the inhabitants who, nearly all of them, are slave-owners.

I shall not fail to watch the progress of these measures, and I shall do myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship as to the means adopted for carrying the Decree into effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 490.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 6, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 29th ultimo, I have to acquaint your Lordship that I considered it my duty to place Commander Hancock's letter and inclosures relative to the circumstances under which the brig slaver "*Grey Eagle*," was taken possession of by Her Majesty's brig "*Espiègle*" under his command near Bahia Honda, in the hands of Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, which I accordingly did on the 29th, accompanied by a letter, a copy of which I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship; and I understand that the Judge having addressed the Captain-General upon the subject of Commander Hancock's claim to the capture, his Excellency decided, that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda having previously been in possession, neither the "*Espiègle*," nor the Spanish brig of war "*Alcedo*," had a right to the prize. Commander Hancock, however, did not acquiesce, and having expressed his intention to report the case to the Rear-Admiral Commander-in-chief at Halifax, the Marquis de la Pezuela sent it to the Mixed Court, which was to meet yesterday upon the subject.

Commander Hancock having found the vessel in question at anchor, without any person on board, he took possession of her, and so remained the whole of the night afterwards, and it was not until the following morning that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda sent off a boat to say, that he had made the capture the day previous to the appearance of the "*Espiègle*," and Commander

Hancock seeing that the slaver's boats were laying on the beach abreast of her, knew that the crew, who had not been captured, could not have escaped at sea, had a fair right to infer the probability that, but for his opportune appearance, the slaver's master and crew would have returned on board and would have been allowed to go away in her to bring another cargo from Africa.

Circumstances have since transpired which fully justify this suspicion, for it is certain that there were many more Bozal negroes landed from the "*Grey Eagle*" than the 205 reported by the Governor of Bahia Honda as captured by him, and as having been the whole cargo of this slaver. His Excellency having notice of this infamous proceeding, at once ordered the Lieutenant-Governor to be superseded and he is now under process.

According to the information which reached this Government, there were upwards of 500 Bozals landed at Ortigosa upon this occasion, and it is hoped that the greater part of those who have been concealed will yet be taken. But I have received a statement which makes the transaction still more criminally infamous.

The number landed is said to have been no less than 670. The 205 captured were picked out as the sickly and weakest, mostly children unable to undergo fatigue, and unsaleable in their then condition.

The bribes amounted to 32,000 dollars, of which the Lieutenant-Governor wanted to retain three-fourths or 24,000 dollars, but this being objected to, the division was made to the satisfaction of all the parties, and those were, all the officers or employes of the Government in that district, civil and military, including a person for whom I had very recently obtained a commission to capture Bozal negroes, by having recommended him to the Marquis de la Pezuela, but who has most completely deceived my expectations. I allude to Don José Lopez Rangel, whom I mentioned in my despatch dated the 8th of October last year, and I hope that he will now receive the punishment he so richly deserves for the practice of such duplicity.

His Excellency has upon more than one occasion complained in conversation of the difficulty he has found in selecting officers upon whom reliance can be placed in the numerous districts, especially for those bounding on the sea board, but his firmness and perseverance will in time be sufficient to teach those to whom he confides his orders, that they are to be obeyed and cannot be evaded with impunity.

The Lieutenant-Governors of Trinidad and Sancti Spiritu besides him of Bahia Honda are under process, removed from their respective commands, their assessors, or legal advisers are also under process, and three very celebrated slave-traders, Choperena, Borrell and Castro are in prison, accused of being engaged in the diabolical Traffic, which it seems his Excellency is determined by every means in his power to put an end to.

It will be extremely difficult however to convict any of the delinquents I have alluded to, owing to the means which are always employed to buy off and deter the witnesses from declaring the truth. For such purposes the wealth of the slave-traders is at the command of the prosecuted who, for that reason, have hitherto been convicted, which is so much the more to be regretted, as I feel convinced that the punishment of a few of the officers and of the rich slave-traders would have a very salutary influence upon the conduct and future transactions of the rest.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 490.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith a letter and its inclosures which I have received from Commander George Hancock, of Her Majesty's brig "*Espiègle*," relative to the circumstances under which he fell in with, boarded, and captured the slaver "*Grey Eagle*," off Ortigosa on the 27th instant, which vessel was on the following day claimed for the Spanish authorities as having

been previously detained by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahía Honda, simultaneously with 205 negroes found on board, as stated by the Commander of the Spanish brig-of-war "Alcedo," in his letter to Commander Hancock, who agreed to the proposal of the Spanish Captain that the prize should be taken to Havana for adjudication under his custody, considering it proper to do so, and so avoid any unpleasant discussion with the authorities of a nation in close amicable relations with Great Britain; but you will observe that Commander Hancock was careful to take the Spanish Commander's receipt for the "*Grey Eagle*," which you will find amongst the papers transmitted by him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 490.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, transmitting in original certain papers received from Commander Hancock of Her Majesty's brig "*Espiègle*," relating to a capture by him, and subsequent yielding up to the Commander of the Spanish brig-of-war "*Alcedo*," of a deserted slaver-brig near Ortigosa."

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 491.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 14, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 28th of June last, when noticing to your Lordship the unceasing efforts of the Marquis de la Pezuela for putting an end to the Slave Trade, I mentioned the energy and activity which his Excellency informed me had been displayed by Colonel Don Santiago Gurrea, the Lieutenant-Governor of Sancti Spiritu.

It appears, however, that M. Gurrea had been playing false, and is accused under process of having been accessible to the allurements of gold held out by the slave-traders.

Upon a former occasion, some years ago, when Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel, this officer fell under my suspicions; but at that time, under Señor Roncali's protection, no convictions were obtained, and Gurrea received a decoration, so that when the Captain-General mentioned his name as having shown great zeal at Sancti Spiritu, I was disposed to hope that the unfavourable opinion I had of him might have been unjust, but this turns out not to be the case, and I therefore hasten to correct the praise bestowed upon him in my former despatch.

Brigadier de la Torre, who has been commissioned to form the "*sumarios*" against Colonel Gurrea and against Colonel Don Juan Martin, the Lieutenant-Governor of Trinidad, is, I understand, proceeding with considerable energy, and has captured, during the first two days after his arrival at Trinidad, upwards of 500 Bozal negroes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 492.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 18, 1854.

ON the 15th instant I received information from an anonymous correspondent at Pinar del Rio, which, from the handwriting and other marks, I knew to be from a party whose information, upon former occasions, had proved to be most thoroughly reliable. I, therefore, did not hesitate to communicate its purport to the Captain-General, stating to his Excellency that it had come to me in the manner above described, and was as follows :

“That on the afternoon of the 7th instant, the Lieutenant-Governor received information officially, from the Captain of Guané, that a vessel without any person on board, had made its appearance at the Ensenada de Cortez, which appeared to have been a slaver.

“This information caused these authorities to make a show of doing something (they being already bribed), so they proceeded in that direction, but stopped at Don Juan, where the assessor (also bribed), as there was no notary with them, began to take useless declarations.

“Under these circumstances, the Corporal of the Rounds of the Palisadas, in the quarter of Pinar del Rio, named Don Ramon Affré, having learnt that there were Bozal negroes at the estate La Llamada, rented by a certain Señor Cruz, attacked it with a party of countrymen, and succeeded in taking 101: 94 of whom, composed of men, women, and children, he conveyed to the town; the rest, being sick, remained at the estate. He also captured four of the sailors of the slave-vessel, who were guarding the negroes, and two others made their escape, along with many more Bozals, who dispersed into the woods, where no doubt they will be stolen, and not delivered up to the authorities.

“The landing was effected on the 3rd, at Cayo Mono, a short distance from La Colona, and the negroes were consigned to Don José Maria Dias Delpino.

“The place where the negroes and four sailors were captured, is more than three leagues towards the interior from the coast, and is little more than two leagues from Pinar del Rio, close to the high road. This, and the remarkable circumstance of the Bozals having been six days on shore without being molested, gives rise to many well-founded conjectures.

“The total number of Bozal negroes disembarked, was 410. Where, then, are those who are wanting? This should be answered by the authorities of Pinar del Rio. In the warehouse at Colon, there are still some of them, and also some of a previous expedition, and they are being publicly sold. Who is there that does not know it?

“With these facts you can proceed, and if the Captain-General does not now apply all his strength to that which he put forth in his proclamation of May last, as respects the Lieutenant-Governors and Captains of districts, we shall have a repetition of the scandal of the coast of Guanés, in the affair of the ‘*Jasper*’ and other slavers about that time. Six days were these negroes in sight of the town, and yet it was necessary they should be taken by the Corporal of the Rounds!

“Don José Canela y Reventos, and Don Ramon Quadreny, are owners of the expedition; the former obtained permission from the present Governor of Pinar del Rio to land them in consideration of two ounces a-head. We are not certain that the money has been given, but it is most sure that the negroes have been disembarked.”

To this communication I had the pleasure of receiving an answer the same day from the Government Secretary, M. Estevan, acquainting me “that his Excellency had received the same information from a private source, and that, in consequence, he had given the necessary orders that the Brigadier Apodaca should proceed to relieve the Brigadier Ballesteros, at Pinar del Rio, with full powers to look for and capture the negroes wherever they might be found; that Ballesteros should, on the instant, proceed to Santiago de Cuba, and place himself under the orders of the Marquis de la España. That the outfitters and

consignees be made prisoners and placed under trial. That the Captain of Guanabacoa be removed and placed under process, to be replaced by the Corporal of the Rounds who made the capture. The Assessor, also, to be superseded, and another put in his place, and, in short, that his Excellency had adopted the most energetic measures upon this occasion, as (the Secretary observes) I must know that he always does."

On the 16th, having received another communication from my anonymous correspondent of Pinar del Rio, I lost no time in laying a copy of it before his Excellency; it was dated the 12th, and to the effect following:

"The Lieutenant Don Vicente Cablesola was doing the duty of the Captain of Pinar del Rio, on the 9th, when the Corporal, Don Ramon Affré, captured the Bozals. Said Cablesola was not ignorant that the negroes were hidden in a wood a little more than two leagues from the town; he knew it as well as the Lieutenant-Governor and the Assessor, who, in accord with the owners of the expedition, went out from Pinar del Rio in an opposite direction, and towards Punta de Cartas, to give time for the negroes to be distributed amongst the estates; but as Affré captured them, he has been rewarded by them with the destitution of his employment as Cabo de Ronda. It is true, that he had sent in his resignation two months before, but it was not admitted, but now they have agreed to remove him; no doubt to satisfy Don José Canela and Don Ramon Quaderny, thus showing them, that the Lieutenant-Governor and his accomplices were not to blame that the negroes were captured, and in proof thereof, that they had turned away the said Corporal.

"Of the 400 negroes only 101 have been taken. Where are the rest? The purchasers, Don José Perez Castañeda, Don Lorenzo Garcia, and Don Francisco Triana, as well as Don Manuel Royo, who also bought two of them can tell; and this Manuel Royo is neither more nor less than the party who is employed drawing up the process respecting said negroes.

"Where did those negroes land? How is it that they have been six days on shore, and only two leagues from town, without having been captured? Let this be answered by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Assessor, and the Acting Captain Pedaneo."

On the 17th I received a third letter from Pinar del Rio, dated the 13th, copy of which I also laid before his Excellency, and the following is a translation:—

"In consequence of the capture which the Corporal of the Rounds, Don Raymon Affré, made of 101 Bozal negroes, the Lieutenant-Governor has sent a circular to all his subalterns in the district of Pinar del Rio, ordering that they are on no account to search the estates, even if they knew that there were Bozal negroes on them, until they had given him previous notice. This determination shows, that what is wished is to aid the African expeditions, and to laugh at the dispositions of the Captain-General, as well as that the Treaties with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty should not be observed.

"The introduction of negroes upon the coast of the district of Pinar del Rio, may be in some measure prevented by the destitution of the Lieutenant, Don Vicente Cablesola, who knows every yard of it, the most secret roads, and the woods and thickets best adapted for hiding places; and we know that he is sold to the outfitters of this reprobated Traffic, so much so, that acting as Captain of the district of Pinar del Rio, on the 9th current, he could not be, nor ought he to have been, ignorant, that in his district the 101 Bozals were hidden which were captured by Affré; and this Cablesola is the same who, in the time of the Governor Ayllon, withdrew or kept back the information he had prepared as to Bozal negroes in consideration of four ounces of gold.

"The effective Captain of Pinar del Rio has also been bribed by Don José Perez Castaneda, Don Francisco Friana, and Don Lorenzo Garcia, that he should include in the registration now being made, the rest of the expedition not captured; and as the negroes were delayed in arriving at the estates, so he (the Captain) delayed the conclusion of the registries, until at last they were included. Search the estates of those we have mentioned, and there the Bozals will be found.

"Finally, if the Captain-General takes away the Lieutenant-Governor, the Assessor, the Captain and Lieutenant of the district, believe me that African expeditions will be put an end to in Pinar del Rio. At the last hour, we have learned that the curate of Pinar del Rio was at a tobacco plantation in Passo

Viejo, baptizing a great number of lately introduced Bozal negroes; by examining the registry of baptisms of negroes in the parish the doubt would be solved. The owner of these negroes is the wealthy Don Juan Conrich, the partner of Canela y Quadreny.

"At the estate La Llamada, they are selling more than 100 negroes belonging to the same expedition; this place belongs to a nephew of Don Ramon Quadreny. You may say to the General, that if he is sincere, he has only to commission anybody of his confidence for the capture of these negroes at the places we have mentioned.

"The Assessor, Don Carlos Delgado y Parejo, although not a judge having jurisdiction, has great ascendancy over the Lieutenant-Governor, and influences him to conceal his knowledge of the place where the negroes would be found, because he has a share in the expedition, that is to say, he has relations with the outfitters.

"At the time of the apprehension of the 101 negroes, they dispersed, and some of them have been stolen by various tobacco-growers, whose names we now reserve to be communicated to you later. The night before last, the Lieutenant of the district, Don Francisco Cruz Silvera, with his brother, Don Rafael, and his cousin, Don Serapio Silva, were at the tobacco estate of Don Juan Conill, which is at Passo Viejo, and where there is another lot of negroes of the same expedition. The partner authorized to sell them is Don Miguel Jané, a partner of Conill, a tobacco-dealer, and the Lieutenant Cruz having presented himself with all appearances as if he was about to capture the negroes, he received fifty gold ounces (170*l.*) by the hands of Don Juan Ventura Pequeño, by order of said Jané, for not taking the negroes. This is as true as the Evangelists.

"The negroes they are selling at La Llamada, the estate of Quadreny, are bathed every day in the river Paixonas; this is the same property which belonged to the collector of the Revenues, Don Joaquin Gonzales Berdugo."

I have the honour of inserting here, a translation of the acknowledgment of these two last communications, which I received yesterday from the Government Secretary:

"I answer your favours of yesterday and to-day, stating to you that all the functionaries mentioned in the copies of communications you have sent in, have been at once removed from their situations, besides the charges and consequent punishment under the process which has been raised for that purpose. How much it is to be wished, that all this could be proved; but you, who have lived so many years in this country, well know how difficult it is to obtain full proofs in matters of this nature.

"The Government may remove those employés, as to whom there is the moral conviction that they have been wanting in their duties, they may remove them to another place, in fine, they may never again employ them; but they cannot impose afflictive punishments nor degradations, unless the charges have been legally proved; and as the Courts of Justice are those who are to impose such punishments, judicial proofs are indispensably necessary. How desirable it would be, I repeat, that such outrages should be proved, so as that they might get their deserts.

"I thank you, in the name of his Excellency, for your efficacy in aiding all you can to obtain the desired result, and I repeat myself, &c."

My unknown correspondent, under date the 14th instant, writes again:—

"That the process raised at Pinar del Rio for discovery of origin of the 101 negroes and 4 white sailors, captured on the 9th by Don Ramon Affré, at Cayo Grande de la Llana, when the Lieutenant-Governor, Don Rafael Lopez Ballesteros, and the Assessor, Don Carlos Delgado y Parejo, had set out to look for those negroes in a direction diametrically opposite, is going on in its usual course.

"The sailors obstinately persist in concealing the name of the outfitters, and assert that there were only some hundred negroes; they say, that when they were apprehended, they had been eight days on shore. The negroes state, through an interpreter, that upon their arrival at Cayo Mono, they were divided into three lots; and that before they were captured, there had been removed twice as many as they were, or more.

"The Assessor and the Lieutenant-Governor are bribed; the public voice affirms that it is so; and it is to be believed, taking into account a circular issued by the Governor to his subordinates, a true copy of which we transmit to

you. This circular proves the interest of Ballesteros, and of his shadow, the Assessor, that the whole expedition should not be captured, so as that the owners, from whom they had received money, should not lose all the negroes.

"Don Juan Conill is owner of one of the lots, and although he had succeeded in selling a great part, he has suffered two impositions worthy of being mentioned (here is repeated the fact of the fifty ounces bribe mentioned in the former letter), that bribe was paid by order of Don Miguel Jané, agent of Conill, to the Lieutenant of the district, by Don Juan Ventura Pequeño, in Pinar del Rio, and was divided as follows:—

To Don Rafael Cruz	6 ounces
" " Juan Cruz	6 "
" " Serapio Silva	13 "
" " Francisco Cruz	25 "
,,—total, 50	

"But fate willed it that the Standard-bearer of the Queen's Regiment, Don Antonio Alarcó, another officer called Montero, and Don Rafael Duarte, went out to shoot yesterday, and fell in with the negroes, who were concealed on Conill's property, a short two leagues from Pinar del Rio; they got together five or six more white men, and succeeded in capturing 40 negroes. They sent in their report, and at 3 o'clock this morning the Governor, the Assessor, and a field-officer of the Staff, set out in the direction of Cuajari, with the aparato of going to see if there were more negroes to be captured; but they returned at 9 o'clock without having apprehended any others than the 40 which accident threw in the way of Alarcó; and the circular (copy of which is inclosed) prohibited the corporals and other officers from searching for them.

"The Lieutenant Cablesola was not ignorant that the negroes were there, but as he is sold to the outfitters, and in accord with the Lieutenant-Governor and the Assessor, he said nothing; but the most curious thing is, that the 40 negroes are the same whom the curate baptized the day before yesterday, and who were registered by the same person who signs the circular, so that during the four days since the first capture, there has been bribery, robbery, and even sacrilege, for the curate baptized at the rate of an ounce of gold for each negro. What demoralization? And add to this, the fire of musketry which there was between the people of Alarcó and those of the estate when he went to capture the 40 negroes.

"Besides Castaneda, Friana, and Garcia, we know that Don Pedro Urquiaga has bought negroes; all this is known to the Lieutenant-Governor, the Assessor, Cablesola, and the Cruzes, but notwithstanding, they take no steps towards apprehending all these Bozales."

This last communication I also lost no time in laying before the Captain-General, accompanied by a copy of the circular therein alluded to, which was to the following effect:—

Circular.

*"Captain of the District of Pinar del Rio's Office,
July 11, 1854.*

"To prevent the annoyance which the inhabitants of this district might suffer from any district-officer or Corporal of the Rounds, I warn you, that it is absolutely prohibited to search any estate or private house under the excuse of seeing whether there have been introductions of Bozal negroes; therefore, whenever it is supposed there are any, the officers are to apply to the Lieutenant-Governor of this jurisdiction, who will decide what he thinks proper. The officer who infringes this rule will be held severely responsible; and I warn you, that it will be painful for me to proceed against any Lieutenant or Corporal who disobeys this order, as no inhabitant must be injured without first communicating to him the order of the Government. I expect you will acknowledge receipt of this order."

(Signed)

"JOSE LOBATO."

I have but little expectation that the process, in this case, will lead to the conviction of the guilty persons; but the proceedings instituted by the Captain-General for that purpose, and his Excellency's governative measures, in the removal of all the parties who are implicated, from office, can hardly fail to produce a beneficial effect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 493.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 20, 1854.

I UNDERSTAND that the slaver-brig "*Grey Eagle*" has been given up as prize to the "*Espiègle*, and that the case is being proceeded with before the Mixed Court of Justice at this place.

I regret however to state to your Lordship, that until now, no more of the negroes have been captured, and from what I have learnt as to the proceedings instituted at Bahia Honda, the good intentions of the Captain-General are very likely to be frustrated by the efforts of the slave-traders and the all-powerful application of gold.

It appears that the crew of the "*Grey Eagle*" came from Bahia Honda into this port of Havana on board of a coasting schooner. The master, whose name was Donald, said to be by birth a Frenchman, now a naturalized citizen of the United States, took passage hence to Charleston, and all the rest had also got away, when a lad, whose name was Joseph Town, describing himself as of Philadelphia, appeared before the Acting Consul of the United States, and registered his deposition on oath, which the Acting Consul has transmitted to the United States' district attorney.

Said Joseph Town declares that the master's name was Donald, the mate's William Roderick, that three of the sailors were Mitchel, Bourdon, and Leconte, the latter a Portuguese, that there were besides three more Portuguese, one Spaniard, and five more Frenchmen who composed the crew. That the deponent shipped at Philadelphia, as he understood, and the others who spoke English, for San Thomas; that having sailed, as they thought, a much longer distance than to San Thomas, they insisted upon knowing where they were bound, and were then informed, that they were going to the coast of Africa, where in a few days afterwards they arrived, and in an hour or two the negroes were put on board, and they had again sailed, bound as they were told for Havana, that after a passage of 35 to 38 days, they arrived at and entered a small narrow river where the slaves were instantly landed, and the same night they (the crew) were sent off, about 12 hours' ride distance, to an estate where they lay concealed for ten or twelve days.

Your Lordship will perceive how exceedingly defective is this deposition in which no dates are put down, no names of places, no mention of the number of the negroes and the name of the coaster by which they came to this port is not mentioned. The deponent however says, that he is sure the Lieutenant-Governor was bribed, as he saw him receive 32,000 dollars, and three others also got 2,500 dollars each.

What is very much to be regretted is, that Mr. Robinson, the Acting American Consul, should not have detained the young man, who, he says, was particularly smart and observant, and his evidence would certainly have been most valuable, very probably I think, if well managed, it would have led to the conviction of the whole of the parties concerned in the affair of the "*Grey Eagle*" at Ortigosa and Bahia Honda, but the witness is gone and I am very sorry for it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 494.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, an extract* of a letter dated the 3rd of June last, addressed by Commander Miller of Her Majesty's ship "Crane" to the Secretary of the Admiralty, reporting that the American brig "*Spread Eagle*" had got away from Whydah on the 16th of May with a cargo of 700 slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 495.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 30th of June, acquainting me with reference to my despatch of the 4th of May, reporting to your Lordship the important order of the previous day's date which had been issued by the Captain-General, that your Lordship had instructed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid to express to the Spanish Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the determination thus shown by the Marquis de la Pezuela in regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and to say that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that the Marquis will receive from the Spanish Government the support and encouragement which he is justly entitled to expect; your Lordship expressing that Her Majesty's Government sincerely hope that the good intentions of the Captain-General may not be frustrated by the local and other authorities, whose duty it will be to give effect to them, and remarking, that attempts of every kind that can be devised by inveterate habits and sordid interests would beyond doubt be made to evade the order of 3rd May, but that if the penalties announced in that order are rigidly applied, much permanent good may be expected.

His Excellency has proceeded against such of the local authorities as have attempted to frustrate his measures for suppression of the Slave Trade, in a manner so prompt and energetic that can leave no doubt of his determination to enforce the order of the 3rd of May, and should he meet with the support and encouragement of the Spanish Government, the Marquis de la Pezuela has the resolution and will devise all the means, having force sufficient at his command, to suppress and keep down the African Slave Trade, which is already checked in a manner never before known in this island.

No. 496.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of 1st instant, and in obedience to the instruction therein conveyed to me by your Lordship, I have expressed to the Marquis de la Pezuela the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the bold and energetic measures he is adopting for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and which

* See Class A, No. 109.

reflect upon his Excellency the greatest honour. The Marquis de la Pezuela received your Lordship's communication with most apparent satisfaction, and expressed the deep sense which he felt of the honour thus done him by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 497.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 29, 1854.

I BEG leave to inclose herewith to your Lordship, a printed copy and translation of a circular dated 28th instant, addressed to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of Districts, by his Excellency the Governor Captain-General the Marquis de la Pezuela, decreeing certain rewards which are to be paid to any person who shall present to the authorities Bozal negroes, whether taken from the importers or found wandering about, and also decreeing, that if the parties who apprehend such Bozal Africans are of known morality, the negroes so captured will be adjudged to them for the period of their apprenticeship.

Her Majesty's Government will see in this measure a new proof of the Marquis de la Pezuela's determination to extirpate the African Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 497.

Circular.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 28, 1854.

CONSIDERING that there is no measure within the faculties of Her Majesty's Government (in this country so ample) which I am not disposed to adopt to put an end to this demoralized and fatal trade, which for so long a time has been putting into insecurity and alarm the property of individuals which can only be guaranteed and secured by the faithful observance of the Treaties, and the total extirpation of the African Traffic.

And notwithstanding that this is already about its end, by the registration of slaves, which registers you will transmit to me as speedily as possible, its prejudicial existence is not to be left for a moment notwithstanding.

And finally, it having come to my knowledge that the active persecution carried on against the introduction of Bozal negroes at various places in the island, has occasioned that many of these unhappy people are wandering about the woods abandoned and fugitives, chased away from the estates whose honourable proprietors by obeying the laws are unwilling to be classed as protectors of crime. I have disposed—

1st. That to all persons who present Bozales of Africa to the authorities captured from their importers, or caught wandering about, there shall be paid ten dollars for every full grown man, six dollars for every woman, and three dollars for every child, which sums are to be paid from the fund of the emancipados, which cannot be employed to a better purpose than in the liberation of our fellow creatures.

2nd. If those who present such Bozales, are proprietors of known morality, the liberated Africans will be adjudged to them for the term of their apprenticeship, according to the conditions of that regulation.

Which I say to you for your punctual observance.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) THE MARQUIS DE LA PEZUELA.

To the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of the Island.

No. 498.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 31, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of 29th ultimo, inclosing a copy of an order issued by the Captain-General of Cuba, on the 28th ultimo, offering rewards for the apprehension of Bozal negroes.

This order may be very useful, and has given much satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government, but great care should be taken in ascertaining the character of the persons to whom the Bozals are to be assigned under the order.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 499.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 18, 1854.

I HAVE to report to your Lordship that by the vigilance of the officers under the orders of his Excellency the Captain-General it was discovered that a disembarkation of Bozal negroes had been effected the beginning of this present month in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, consisting, as nearly as has been made out, of 360 or 380, who were first landed at a place called Cayo Louisa, where fifty-nine of them were captured, and it was ascertained that the rest of them had been conveyed to the mainland of the island in boats and launches, the vessel after effecting the disembarkation having gone off to sea. Of those conveyed to the mainland two parties of 30 and 174 (making, with the 59 seized at the Cay, a total of 263), have been brought in, and have been declared emancipados.

In my despatch of the 29th ultimo, I did myself the honour of bringing under your Lordship's notice a proclamation or circular which had been put forth by the Marquis de la Pezuela offering rewards for the discovery and apprehension of recently imported Africans. I have now the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship, that the good effects of that measure have been manifested, as it appears by the "Gazette" of this date, that 78 men, 3 male children, 80 women and 15 female children, were captured by an individual called Don Manuel Cristobal de Zayas, being the 174 before mentioned belonging to the expedition at Cayo Louisa, and the said Zayas has been paid the sum of 1,294 dollars of reward, in terms of the Captain-General's circular of the 28th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 500.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 21, 1854.

HAVING received information that a disembarkation of slaves had been effected about a fortnight ago in the district of San Juan de los Remedios, and also that a slaver having 500 Bozal negroes on board had made her appearance off the coast of Santiago de Cuba, where Mr. Pro-Consul Beattie reported that it was rumoured she had succeeded in landing them, at some place between Guantanamo and Baracoa, I addressed a communication to His Excellency the Captain-General relative to both these cases on the 17th instant.

I have now the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that I have received in answer a note from the Government Secretary stating, that respecting the case at San Juan de Remedios, his Excellency had not received any other information than that which I had communicated, but that immediate orders had been issued to investigate the matter and to imprison the owners and

their accomplices, to search the country and the estates for capture of the Bozal negroes as well as for the apprehension and punishment of the guilty, in the event of my information being correct.

And as respected the slaver at Santiago de Cuba, the same report had been made to this Government from that quarter by the Governor of the eastern provinces the Marquis de España, who had acquainted the Captain-General of the measures he had taken for the immediate capture of the unfortunate negroes, and of all those implicated in their introduction into this island. The Secretary assuring me of the Marquis de la Pezuela's implicit confidence in the Governor of Cuba, repeats the most unalterable determination on the part of his Excellency the Captain-General, not only to persecute but to extirpate completely this infamous Traffic, which he will undoubtedly accomplish after a little more time and patience.

I have only to add to this new assurance on the part of his Excellency my thorough conviction, that if the Marquis de la Pezuela is not interfered with by any restrictions from Spain, his energetic measures will very soon effect the great objects which he has had in view from the commencement of his government here, and, as matter of honourable duty, compel the observance of the Treaties with Great Britain, as well as from feelings of humanity and morality put an end to the horrors of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 501.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 24, 1854.

IT appears that the authorities of the United States are actively engaged in the prosecution of those persons who have been engaged in the Slave Trade.

The declaration of the sailor Joseph Town, who was on board the slaver "*Grey Eagle*," to which I did myself the honour of alluding in my despatch dated the 20th ultimo, having been transmitted to his Government by Acting American Consul Robertson, the master of that slaver, whose name turns out to be Darnaud, a Frenchman originally, but a naturalised citizen of the United States (not Donald, as Town in his declaration called the master), has been arrested and put upon his trial at Philadelphia for the offence, and the United States' attorney of that place has written to the present Acting American Consul, Mr. Savage, for such proofs as it may be in his power to furnish from hence, as may conduce to the conviction of the said Darnaud. Town and three others of the crew of the "*Grey Eagle*" had been found and would appear as evidences for the prosecution, and I have furnished Mr. Savage with a full description of the slaver as she lays in this harbour, which was obtained from Commander Phillimore of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Medea*," and contains many things of material importance, such as the exact length, breadth and depth of the vessel. That under the letters "*Grey Eagle*" of Philadelphia, may be read "*Grey Eagle*" of Robbinston, thus enabling them to identify the vessel by tracing her from her former registry and ownership at Robbinston to her ownership and registry at Philadelphia, and thus supply the want of papers, as none were found on board when she was taken possession of by Commander Hancock of Her Majesty's sloop "*Espiègle*," and the discovery of the owners under the register granted at Philadelphia may lead to that of the purchasers who had her fitted at New York from whence she sailed for the coast of Africa. There is besides in the description, the makers' names of the cooking apparatus and large coppers which, as they are of the manufacture of that State, were no doubt furnished and put on board of the vessel at New York.

I beg leave to inclose herewith a copy of the description of the "*Grey Eagle*," for which, as I before mentioned, I am indebted to Commander Phillimore.

I have also the honour of reporting to your Lordship, that I have supported the Acting American Consul's application to his Excellency the Captain-General, by using my influence to obtain additional proofs through this Govern-

ment, to substantiate the charges against the prisoner at Philadelphia, proving the fact of the disembarkation of the slaves at Ortigoza from on board the "*Grey Eagle*," and the capture of a part of them afterwards by these authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 501.

Commander Phillimore to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

"*Medea*," Havana, August 23, 1854.

IN consequence of your request to me this day to furnish you with a description of the slaver seized by Her Majesty's sloop "*Espiègle*" near Bahia Honda, I sent two very intelligent officers on board to inspect her, and I forward you their report for your consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) AUGUSTUS PHILLIMORE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 501.

Messrs. Wise and Beck to Commander Phillimore.

Sir,

"*Medea*," Havana Harbour, August 23, 1854.

IN pursuance of your orders, we proceeded on board the brig captured by Her Majesty's brig "*Espiègle*," and found her with yards on deck, lower-masts and rigging up, top-masts housed.

We measured her, and found her to be 96 feet from inside of stem to taffrail, 21 feet beam, measured across main-hatchway, and 10 feet depth of hold from the skin to the deck.

Slave-deck beams fitted temporary, and shifting slave-deck, the height of which, from deck to deck, was 3 feet 8 inches.

There are ninety-two water-leaguers and fifty-nine barrels of rice in the hold. The casks of rice are marked "New York Rice-mill."

We found three extra hatchways cut in upper deck, fitted with temporary combings.

Galley large, with regular ship's coppers, which are marked "New York Iron-foundry, F. & I. C. Tobin & Co."

In addition to which are two slave-coppers, and they are marked "J. Torrence, Eagle Foundry, Troy, New York. James Macgregor. Patented, December 22, 1845."

The windlass is a patent one; the purchase and pauls are marked "Calais Foundry," but the maker's name is cut out in both by a cold chisel or other means. She has a deck-house abaft, which you enter flush with the deck, and a poop 4 feet high from the deck. She has a small gilt eagle for a figure-head. Hull painted black, copper-bottomed, iron-fastened above the copper.

On her stern is painted "*Grey Eagle*, Philadelphia," underneath which has been painted "*Grey Eagle*, Robbinston." She has a gilt eagle and two stars on her stern; and we judge her to be a vessel of from 160 tons to 180 tons.

We remain, &c.
(Signed) FRED. WISE, *Master*.
JOHN BECK, *Carpenter*.

No. 502.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received September 18.*)

My Lord,

Havana, August 26, 1854.

I LEARN from the Secretary of the Government, that the Commandant of Isle of Pines has reported to the Captain-General, that a fisherman had fallen in with 5 Bozal negroes, and subsequently with 2 others on the 21st instant, the two latter dead, and apparently having died of starvation, one of the bodies being also much eaten by the caymans or crocodiles which abound there.

By means of an interpreter of the Congo Loanda nation, it was elicited, as well as it could be understood from the imperfect way the five survivors were able to explain themselves, that the slaver in which they were, had been wrecked upon the shoals, that only the master and three seamen were able to save themselves in one of the boats, all the rest, white and black, excepting themselves, having perished.

They also stated that a ship-of-war had fired at them and had carried away their mast, which was the reason of their having been cast away afterwards.

This seems improbable, because any cruizer that had, in chase, shot away their mast, would in all probability have succeeded in capturing them, unless, indeed, darkness had come on, and they escaped by changing their course.

There are no dates, nor other particulars obtained from the 5 unfortunate negroes; and, wherever the master and the three sailors may have got ashore, they would observe the utmost secrecy, so that we must trust to time and chance, or it may be that we may never learn the particulars of this sad shipwreck.

I learn, that speculating upon the removal of the present Captain-General as a consequence of the change of Government which has taken place at Madrid, there are several expeditions in contemplation to the coast of Africa; and I am of opinion that slave-trading must be declared to be piracy, and be dealt with as such, towards everybody who engages in it, or is concerned in its results, if the Spanish Government is really in earnest to deter its subjects from entering into or continuing the detestable Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 503.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 26, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 17th of March, and to your reply of the 26th of April, respecting the objection entertained by Her Majesty's Government to be called upon to find funds for the emigration of liberated Africans from Cuba to any place except the British West Indian Colonies, I herewith transmit to you a copy of a letter addressed by the Superintendent of the Packet Service at Southampton to the Secretary to the Admiralty, by which you will see that 32 persons of the above description arrived at that port by the last packet from the Havana. I have requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to provide a free passage to Sierra Leone for these persons, and they will be maintained at the public cost during their stay in this country; but you will report to me the circumstances under which this further arrival has taken place, and whether they left the Havana with your cognizance or authority.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 503.

Captain Austin to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Southampton, September 5, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that 32 liberated Africans from Cuba arrived here by the last West India steamer, and to-day it has been represented to me that these people have told the Spanish individuals who have lodged and provided for them, that they are waiting instructions from the Government as to how they are to obtain a passage to their homes in Africa, and that their connections and countrymen, who had preceded them to this country, had given them to understand that provision would be made for them upon their reaching England. Such being the statement made to me, I have considered it my duty to forward the same for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and to beg they will be pleased to inform me if it is the intention of the Government to give any directions in behalf of these apparently most deserving people, who it is represented to me are without means of providing for themselves, and that after to-day they will be turned over to the parish authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. T. AUSTIN.

No. 504.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 31st of May,* inclosing copies of the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March, respecting slavery in Cuba, I now transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office,† inclosing a copy of a despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, in which he gives his opinion as to the manner in which those Decrees may operate to the prejudice of colonists repatriating to Cuba from Yucatan; and I have to instruct you to inquire into this matter, and report to me whether the Decrees in question will have the practical operation apprehended by Mr. Wodehouse.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 505.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 28, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 24th ultimo, stating that Darnaud, the master of the "*Grey Eagle*," slaver, had been arrested, and put upon his trial at Philadelphia on a charge of Slave Trade, and reporting the steps which you had taken to obtain evidence to procure his conviction; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 472.

† Inclosure 1 in No. 260.

No. 506.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, September 29, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you that General Concha before leaving Madrid for the Havana, assured Lord Howden that he intended to oppose the fraudulent introduction of negroes into Cuba in the most uncompromising manner, and that he was determined to maintain the Treaties respecting Slave Trade into which Spain has entered with Great Britain.

No. 507.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 16.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 14, 1854.

MR. DOYLE, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, having transmitted to me under flying seal a despatch* dated the 2nd instant, with its inclosures, conveying the unsatisfactory answer of the Mexican Government about Señor Vivo's conduct in the case of the "*Lady Suffolk*," in order that I, being on the spot, might give any further information upon the subject which might occur to me; I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of Mr. Doyle's despatch to which I have alluded, and I also forward by this opportunity his Excellency's despatches to your Lordship, which have had my fullest attention.

I have had interviews with the Acting Consul for the United States, Mr. Savage, who has been for a long time in that Consulate as the chief clerk, or secretary, as well as with M. Carvallo, the Mexican Consul, and have in conversation with both of these functionaries referred to the circumstances of the affair of the "*Lady Suffolk*."

I have to confirm in every particular what I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship upon this subject in my despatch dated the 28th of August, 1853,† and inclosures.

Señor Vivo's despatch dated 23rd of October, 1853 (Inclosure No. 1 of Mr. Doyle's to your Lordship) goes to throw the whole responsibility upon Señor Soler, as having been the Acting Mexican Consul here at the date of the disgraceful transaction, and it would perhaps be difficult to prove that Señor Vivo had re-assumed the Consular duties at that time, after his return from Vera Cruz, from whence he had arrived four days previously. But I have learnt from Señor Carvallo that when Señor Vivo left Havana and accompanied General Santa Anna to Mexico, the latter promised that he, Señor Carvallo, should have the appointment of Consul; that he was therefore rather surprised at not having received his commission when Señor Vivo returned, especially as he had heard of that person being nominated Minister to Spain. That it was not until the 16th, a week after Vivo's arrival, that he proposed to Señor Carvallo to deliver over to him the Consulate, and that to Carvallo's inquiry, why he had not done so sooner, as well as in regard to Santa Anna's instructions upon the subject, Vivo answered, that he had had a good many things to regulate which had hindered him from doing so, and that he then delivered over the office to him by verbal order of his Excellency General Santa Anna, and accordingly Señor Carvallo took charge of the Mexican Consulate the next day, viz., on the 17th of May, 1853. That the archives were received by inventory, but that neither in the inventory nor amongst the archives are any of the documents referred to as being deposited, to be found.

We have seen by the document which I obtained from the United States' Consulate, that no such papers were ever issued from that office.

The appearance of the persons who are named by Señor Vivo as having, according to Señor Soler's statement, appeared at the Mexican Consulate, is therefore a fabrication intended to cover the fraudulent transaction: no such persons in reality ever did present themselves at that office.

* No. 261.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 584.

No such document as the power of attorney from Henry West of Boston, duly legalized by the American Consul, ever was presented or seen by any body at the Mexican Consulate, nor was any such document ever legalized at that of the United States; and, finally, no such ship as the "*Mary*" of Boston entered the port of Cienfuegos in the year 1853, as has been proved by the certificates of the American Consul and the captain of that port.

But it remained for Señor Vivo to call up, in the statement which he says was made to him by Soler, a new character, and that is Don Valentin Corujos, merchant of Havana, said to have been bondsman upon the issue of the sailing letter to the "*Lady Suffolk*," alias "*Mary of Boston*," alias "*Mariana*."

I considered it my duty to inquire, whether such bond is recorded in the archives at the Mexican Consulate; and I have to state, that there not only is no such record, but that the existence of any such person as Don Valentin Corujos, merchant of this city, is unknown to everybody who is at all likely to know about him, and it would not be difficult to prove officially, if necessary, that no such person exists or ever has been known to be established in this city during the last two years.

The whole of the infamous act committed at the Mexican Consulate in granting that flag to a notorious slaver, and the combination of fraud which has been discovered and laid open, shows that the guilty parties thought they had provided against detection, and induces the belief that this was not the only instance where they had had to tax their ingenuity for a similar purpose.

The infamy, it would seem by Señor Vivo's statement, is to be saddled upon his nephew Señor Soler, who at that time was a mere boy. But, as Señor Vivo was here at the time, I can hardly think that Soler would go into such a transaction without having his uncle's counsel and advice. Moreover, upon so recent an act, it appears rather unaccountable that Señor Vivo's attention should not have been attracted, since hardly one of the instructions of the Mexican Government upon the subject of "abanderamiento" or granting the flag to foreign-built vessels, had been complied with, as I am informed by Mr. Consul Carvallo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 507.

Mr. Doyle to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

British Legation, Mexico, September 2, 1854.

I BEG to transmit to you herewith inclosed, under flying seal, a copy of my communication to Lord Clarendon on the subject of the conduct of Vivo in connection with the affair of the "*Mariana*" slaver, in order that you being on spot may give any further information on the same subject which may occur to you.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 508.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 27, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the case of the "*Grey Eagle*," I transmit to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch * which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, inclosing a copy of a note addressed to him on the 13th ultimo by the United States' Secretary of State, in which Mr. Marcy says that proceedings have been instituted against the parties implicated in the case of the "*Grey Eagle*," and that those proceedings will be vigorously prosecuted to a termination.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 509.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 17th August, transmitting for my information an extract of a letter dated 3rd of June last, addressed by Commander Miller of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," to the Secretary of the Admiralty, reporting that the American brig "*Spread Eagle*" had got away from Whydah, on the 16th of May, with a cargo of 700 slaves.

As it would be very easy to confound the two names, and as a slaver from Whydah would most likely run across to Cuba in five or six weeks, I think there can be little doubt that the brig alluded to by Commander Miller was the very "*Grey Eagle*" detained at Bahia Honda, 27th of June, by Commander Hancock of Her Majesty's brig-sloop "*Espiègle*," which vessel is now in this port under adjudication before the Mixed Court.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 510.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, September 27, 1854.

I HAVE received from General de la Concha the assurance that he is invested with powers which he had not when he formerly was intrusted with the Government here, and that it is his firm determination to compel the honourable observance of the Treaties, and to extirpate the Traffic in Slaves.

And the "*Gazette*" of this date, a copy of which I have now the honour of transmitting, contains a circular to the authorities of the island, in which his Excellency pledges himself to the extirpation of the detestable Traffic, in the following terms :

"The preferable attentions of the Government, in the meantime, not permitting of my giving fuller instructions to your Excellency, I have to indicate that which you ought to observe in the important matter of the Traffic in negroes.

"This is for the Government of Her Majesty a sacred duty, in observance of the Treaties, the suppression honestly, loyally, and absolutely of that detestable Traffic.

"It is no less so for the authorities in this island, and is become (constituted) for all of them a point of honour.

"The Traffic in negroes ought therefore, to disappear altogether, and it shall disappear.

"This my worthy antecessor endeavoured to do by his efficacious dispositions, and those which I dictate shall have the same tendency to put an end to that immoral and most prejudicial Traffic, without disturbing the proprietors in the possession of their slaves, by such orders on pretext of their origin, as directed by the laws."

It would seem by this public manifestation, that the Spanish Government is in earnest to put an end to the Slave Trade, and I hope that General Concha's promises will be acted up to, but your Lordship may be assured that the punishments under the Spanish Law as it now is, are wholly inadequate and are so easily evaded, that much stronger measures are necessary to produce the extirpation of an evil so deeply rooted as slave-trading is amongst these people.

No. 511.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, September 27, 1854.

GENERAL PEZUELA is still here and will not leave till the departure of the regular mail-boat for Spain, which will not be for ten days, or a fortnight, yet to come.

It is certainly to be regretted that the removal of this honest Governor has interrupted the course which he would have followed out corrective of the innumerable abuses which exist in all branches of the administration of the affairs of this island. He has at least the merit of having detected those abuses, and of having applied the remedies for their eradication, which it is to be hoped will be followed up by his successor.

The revenues of the island under the Marquis de la Pezuela's administration have produced, without the imposition of any new taxes, a large amount in excess of former averages.

I am well informed that the suppression of smuggling alone has occasioned an increase of the Custom-house revenue considerably over 1,000,000 of dollars during the nine months he was Superintendent, and a production proportionately advantageous in all the other branches.

Besides inspiring respect for his authority in putting down the Slave Trade, by removing all and as many of the officers in command of districts and the subalterns of all ranks and descriptions who had been wanting in the proper execution of their duties, and the placing of those whose acts had made them amenable under arrest to abide their trials before the competent tribunals, he captured, or caused to be captured, no less than 2,699 Bozal negroes, viz. :—

District of Matanras	113
„ Brufas (Trinidad)	602
„ Ortigosa (Bahia Honda)	205
„ Sancti Spiritus and Trinidad	806
„ Cayo Louisa (Bahia Honda)	261
„ Pinar del Rio	205
„ Manimani (Bahia Honda)	103
„ Guines	17
„ Isla de Pinos	103
„ Ditto	242
Total as above	2,699

who are declared emancipados and are hired out for one year's service. A practical check such as had never been experienced by the slave-traders: but his Excellency's short experience of the demoralized state of all those who are in any manner whatever concerned or connected with the detestable Traffic had satisfied him that the very strongest measures are indispensably necessary for its extirpation, and therefore he had urged the Spanish Government to declare it piracy in all its branches—an alternative which I most fervently hope and trust will be had recourse to, for the purpose of putting an end to the abomination, and which it would be desirable to extend not only to the parties who may be found on board of slavers, but to the owners of such expeditions, their agents, the sellers and the buyers, and even to the brokers who employ themselves in the sale of human flesh, as well as to all aiders and abettors in the carrying on of the accursed Traffic; for your Lordship may be assured that hardly any thing short of what I have described will deter these people from engaging in the Trade to Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 512.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received November 1.*)

My Lord,

Havana, September 28, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 31st of August, in which, with reference to that which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Lordship on the 29th of July last, inclosing a copy of the Captain-General's order of the 28th of the same, offering rewards for the apprehension of Bozal negroes, your Lordship observes that this order may be very useful, and has given much satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government, but that great care should be taken in ascertaining the characters of the persons to whom the Bozals are to be assigned under the order.

I most entirely coincide in that opinion of your Lordship, and it is to be apprehended that the Bozal negroes who are captured and assigned as apprentices, do not always fall into proper hands; at the same time, it must be observed that the period for which Bozals are assigned under the new regulations, is so short, that there is not much time for improper masters to abuse the confidence reposed in them; and the negro, if he has been ill used, will not be disposed to engage himself for a second period to such masters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 513.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received November 1.*)

My Lord,

Havana, September 29, 1854.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of letter which I addressed to Her Majesty's Judge, Mr. Backhouse, on the 25th instant, giving him the most recent account of the operations of the slave-traders.

The sailors mentioned at the conclusion of that letter, are still in the prison here, and the Americans have promised to give a full statement to the acting consul of the whole particulars of that case; they, as well as the Portuguese, are cared for in their confinement by some parties, no doubt those who were the owners of the expedition, and are much better fed than if they had to depend upon the prison allowance.

I learn from the Acting Consul for the United States, that another slaver captain, whose vessel landed her cargo on the south side, near Zarza, some three months ago, or perhaps a little more, has been arrested at New York upon the evidence and declarations taken here from one of the sailors of the name of Howell, and transmitted to the Government at Washington.

I consider that the conviction and punishment of Darnaud, the master of the slaver "*Grey Eagle*," who is under trial at Philadelphia, and that of the one arrested at New York, will have the effect of deterring American citizens from engaging in the Traffic, as has been but too frequently the case lately; and it is to be hoped, also, that such disclosures may be elicited on those trials, as will serve to guide the United States' officers in keeping a watch upon the persons who generally engage themselves in the fitting out of the slavers at American ports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 513.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

My dear Sir,

Havana, September 25, 1854.

HAVING received information upon which I thought I could rely, to the effect, that a cargo of slaves was expected on the northern coast, and that arrangements had been made for landing them at Mantua, as well as that another slaver had arrived on the south side, and was laying at anchor at one of the Cays (as it was said) waiting for the Marquis de la Pezuela to be relieved, in order to land her cargo at a place between La Coloma and Daniguas, I, on the 16th instant, sent in the above particulars to his Excellency, and I received from the Government Secretary, on the 18th, a note of the previous day's date, acquainting me that his Excellency had issued the most terminant orders to the Brigadier Apodaca to watch the coast and places indicated; and at the same time, the Secretary informed me, that up to that time they had only received a report from Brigadier Apodaca to the effect, that on the coast near Mantua, two boats with crews, apparently North Americans, had been found, who stated that they belonged to a brig, which sailed from New Orleans, bound to Stockholm, which took fire, and that they had saved themselves in the boats; and the Brigadier Apodaca stated that the Spanish schooner of war "Habanera" was at that time laying at Mantua, and that the summary was about to be gone into, in order to clear up the statement of the people belonging to the boats above-mentioned.

There appears to have been a slaver brig wrecked on the Isle of Pines, as 5 Bozal negroes alive, and 2 dead bodies, had been found there about the 20th ultimo, and the surviving Bozals declared, through an interpreter of the Congo nation, that they were cast away, and the whole of the negroes, except themselves, had been lost, and only the master and one or two of the crew had been saved.

I have since learnt that said master of the wrecked slaver was an American or a citizen of the United States, and there is reason to believe that his name was Bryan, and that he came to Havana and embarked immediately for Charleston on board the American steamer "Governor Dudley."

I have also heard of a schooner slaver having landed some 350 Bozals near Rosario, and that the master made his escape by coming here in the train from the station San Nicolas. Several of the crew, consisting of Portuguese and two Americans, were captured, and are now in prison here, to undergo their trial, and I have been told that most of the slaves of that expedition have been captured by the Spanish Government officers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 514.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November

My Lord,

Havana, October 3, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General requested a conference, which took place last night at the Government-house, and his object was to combine the most immediate measures, on the part of his Excellency, for the detection and capture of slavers and their cargoes; for which purpose he requested that I would, with the least possible delay, communicate such information as I might receive, but especially with regard to the places where expeditions to arrive may be intercepted.

I explained to his Excellency, that that was precisely the sort of information which one rarely, if ever, gets; but that he might be assured I should be most happy to cooperate to the utmost in the suppression of the Traffic, and would, without a moment's delay, communicate all the information in my power for that purpose.

His Excellency said that he was fully determined to extirpate slave-trading; that he had taken every opportunity of stating such to be his unalterable resolution, and that those, if any there were, who might have indulged the hope or expectation that he would relax the measures adopted by his predecessor, should be convinced that he would carry out, perhaps in his own way, the fixed intention he had announced, and that he had no doubt he would soon accomplish the extinction of the detestable Traffic; but that he was anxious, if possible, to have the aid of public opinion, which, he considered, would do much towards the great object he had in view.

In this I quite coincided with his Excellency, and observed, that it was my opinion something had already been effected in that way, but that my experience of the inhabitants of Cuba induced me to arrive at this conclusion, that they very easily become accustomed to whatever is the law prescribed, whilst, at the same time, no people I had ever heard of or met with, were so expert in evading the provisions of law with impunity; and that, therefore, his Excellency's measures would require to be carried out inflexibly by every subaltern authority, so as that the people might at once, or as soon as possible, become aware that there was nothing for it but their implicit obedience and conformity.

It appears, that in consequence of information which General Concha had received as to a slaver hovering off the coast, a war steamer was dispatched in the night, in the expectation of falling in with her; but it turned out, that the slaves were already landed on the 24th ultimo, at the mouth of the Manimani river, between Mariel and Cabañas, and the General informed me that the authorities on shore had captured 73 Bozals, which probably was all that the slaver had brought, as the captured negroes had declared that the vessel was small, the crew consisting of only seven persons, of whom two were stated to have died on their voyage.

I ventured to express my opinion that the declaration of the negroes was improbable, because so small an expedition is hardly ever undertaken in these days, and that opinion, it appears, was not ill-founded, for early this morning I have received information which may probably be relied upon, that at a certain place near to Cabañas there are upwards of 500 Bozals of the same expedition concealed and protected by the Captain of the district, who, with the Sub-delegado del Mar, and another of the local authorities, have been bribed, and who trumped up the story of the negro's declaration to cover their arrangements with the slavers.

His Excellency has adopted the necessary measures for the discovery of the truth in this case, which I hope may lead to the capture of the whole expedition.

I learn, also, that information has reached the Captain-General of a landing of slaves near Nuevitas, respecting which he has taken active measures.

I must not, however, withhold my anxious apprehensions, that a mistaken desire on the part of General Concha to create or inspire confidence on the part of the proprietors of the estates, by not permitting the mustering of the negroes, will embolden many of the planters to purchase Bozal negroes, and have them upon their estates in defiance of the Decree of Registration; I fear that his relaxing, in any way, the execution of that Decree now, may lead to his greater unpopularity when he will have discovered that his confidence has been misplaced, and that they require the strictest looking after to prevent their buying new negroes.

I ventured to express my difference of opinion with his Excellency upon this subject, but I perceived that for the present, at any rate, he will not authorize the authorities to muster the slaves for fear of complaints arising as to vexatious interferences, which certainly would not be wanting whether well-founded or not, but would be raised principally with a view to cover delinquencies, whereas, any really vexatious visits or interferences of the authorities could be very easily inquired into and redressed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 515.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 11, 1854.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a despatch which I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, relative to an expedition which is about to be dispatched from New York for the purpose of bringing 500 slaves from a place described (which is situated on the west coast of Africa) to this island, and intended to be landed at a point some 60 miles to the westward of this port, between El Merillo and the River Manimani, in the district of Bahia Honda. The principal owner of the adventure, I understand, is Don Gaspard Madraso, a Catalan, who lately inherited a fortune upon the death of a distant relative.

I am in hopes, that by the interference of the authorities of the United States' Government, this expedition may be detained when ready to leave New York, or, if not, that the vessel may be fallen in with upon her arrival at the coast of Africa.

I have also given this information to his Excellency the Captain-General, and have disclosed to him the name of the owner of the adventure.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

 Inclosure in No. 515.
Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Havana, October 11, 1854.

I HASTEN to give you the following information, which I have just received from an undoubted source, relative to an expedition which is being prepared for the Slave Trade at New York, thence to be dispatched to the coast of Africa.

On the 28th ultimo, a certain Don José Egea left this place for New York in order to purchase, through the house of Lasala, No. 6, Broadway, a vessel (preferring the rig of a pilot-boat or fore and aft schooner) capable of bringing over 500 slaves from Africa to this island.

The vessel to be equipped with water and all things necessary for the Slave Trade, and so prepared to sail from New York, proceeding to a place on the coast of Africa, in latitude 4° 52' south, and longitude 11° 15' east of Greenwich, where the slaves are, and have been for some time, ready to be put on board. I understand, that just to leeward of the point designated by the latitude and longitude above-mentioned, there is a bight known as "Black Point," distant about 10 miles from where our cruisers are generally to be fallen in with.

The Spanish Captain, whose name is Artaza, goes passenger from New York in this slaver, and he is to assume the command as soon as the negroes are on board and the vessel is ready to set sail from the coast of Africa.

The parties engaged in this adventure have been named to me, as well as the place to which the vessel is to come for the purpose of landing her cargo; but these facts are of no interest in the object which I have in view by this despatch.

Almost all the slave expeditions, for some time past, have been fitted out in the United States, chiefly at New York, where there must be some establishment, slip, or outfitting carpenter's or builder's-yard, specially undertaking such business for the slavers.

I am aware that the attention of the United States' Government has been directed to that circumstance, and that the vigilance of the American officers at Philadelphia and New York has been such as that the masters of two slavers

are at present under trial for slave-trading, and the vessels, in both instances, although purchased elsewhere in the United States, were fitted out at, and sailed from, New York.

I am therefore confident that every assistance would be afforded for the detection of the slaver about to be equipped by Don José Egea, and I hope that you will be able to engage the energies of the proper officers of the Government for that purpose, who will know that it is necessary to observe the greatest secrecy and discretion so as to trace Don Egea and watch his progress, in order to pounce upon the expedition at the moment of its completion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 516.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 20, 1854.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of this island, which was given rise to by a despatch which I received from Commander Phillimore of Her Majesty's steamer-sloop "Medea," who reported that he had fallen in with and examined a schooner, under suspicious circumstances, off the Pass of Manimani, which vessel he found to be in the possession of three persons, who stated that they were under the orders of the Capitan del Partido, who informed the Commander that the slaves had been found at Boca del Rio, but that the vessel had not been seen till the morning of the 25th August, when she was seized by order of the Lieutenant-Governor of that district, viz., Bahia Honda.

It appears that Commander Phillimore's information was quite correct, excepting as to the number of the Bozal negroes landed from said vessel who were captured, the Captain-General stating them at 103, and not 113, as reported by the Commander of the "Medea;" and I have now the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship that said slaver-schooner, designated as the "Peerless," has been towed into this port by a Spanish man-of-war steamer, and is left for adjudication in the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, where she will no doubt be condemned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 516.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Sir,

Havana, October 4, 1854.

I BEG leave to lay before your Excellency a copy of a letter which I have received from Commander Phillimore of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Medea," dated at sea the 28th of August, in which that officer informs me, that on the 25th of that month, when off the Pass of Manimani, he saw a schooner under the suspicious circumstances set forth in his despatch, and that having boarded said schooner, he found on her stern the name "Peerless," New York, and on board a guard of three persons, who were under the orders of a person called the Capitan del Partido, who informed the Commander that the slaves had been found at Boca del Rio 100 men and 13 young, but that the vessel had not been seen until the 25th, when she was seized by order of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Commander Phillimore, finding this vessel in charge (as the persons on board her represented it to him) of the Spanish Government officers, he did not interfere; but your Excellency will not fail to observe, that he considered many of the circumstances of a very extraordinary nature, and he remarks, that they

had had time to clear out the slaves, crew, papers, sails, and some of her spars, and was only found in that state on the 25th, drifting about, so that it was only on the "Medea's" coming in sight, that the slaver was taken to the small village of Morrillo, far away from all apparent means of surveillance of the higher authorities.

The Commander, therefore, considered it his duty to report these circumstances to me; and I have the honour of bringing them under your Excellency's notice, at the same time that I request the favour of information respecting the capture of this slaver and the 113 slaves said to have been landed from her, the more so as I have not heard of any such captured slaver having been brought to this port for adjudication up to this date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 516.

Commander Phillimore to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

"Medea," at Sea, August 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that on the 25th instant, when off the Pass of Manimani at 7.30 A.M., I saw a schooner stationary, without a fore-topmast, and with only a jib bent. Shortly afterwards, I saw her set the jib, hoist Spanish colours, and run in for the anchorage off the village of Morrillo.

Having hove to, and sent in Lieutenant Smith to board her, he reported that she was the "Peerless," a slaver captured that morning by people who said they came from Bahia Honda, by order of the Lieutenant-Governor, and had found her off the reef quite deserted.

I visited the vessel myself next day; outside her stern is marked "Peerless," New York, and inside "Peerless." A guard of three people were on board, under the orders of a man they called the Capitan del Partido (all without any uniform), who told me that the slaves had been found at Boca del Rio (100 men and 13 young ones), but that the vessel was not seen till the morning of the 25th, when she was seized by order of the Lieutenant-Governor.

I did not interfere, as she seemed to be in possession of the Government authorities; but, considering that the vessel had had time to clear out slaves, crew, papers, sails, and some of her spars, and was only found in this state drifting about between 7 and 8 A.M. on the 25th, and, that after our heaving in sight, they took her to the small village of Morrillo, far from all apparent means of surveillance, and that the Government authorities wore no uniform, parts of their story seemed so unlikely, that I have brought all these particulars before your notice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS PHILLIMORE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 516.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Havana, October 12, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor Captain-General has received your Honour's communication of the 4th instant, as to the letter addressed to you by the Commander of the steamer-of-war "Medea," relative to the schooner "Peerless," captured by the authorities of Bahia Honda, for having brought an expedition of slaves.

His Excellency informed thereon, directs me to say to your Honour, as I do, that as the statement in said communication coincides with the result of the first investigation gone into upon this affair, it is equally shown that the disembarkation of the negroes was effected in the night of the 24th,

and that on the day following, the Adjutant of Marine of that district boarded, in a small boat, a vessel which he saw lying at a kedge at a distance of three miles from the coast, and having found her abandoned he had her conveyed to the anchorage of Morrillo de Manimani, leaving her in charge of some men, and from which place she will very shortly be brought to this port.

It appears also that 103, and not 113, as the Commander of the "*Medea*" states to your Honour, was the number of the negroes captured, and their own declarations coincide in that there were only two more who have disappeared, composing the rest of the expedition.

It only remains for me to state to your Honour that his Excellency is duly thankful for the interest your Honour takes in cooperating for the observance of the laws and terminant dispositions in a matter of such transcendancy.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JUAN SUNYE.

No. 517.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received November 13.*)

My Lord,

Havana, October 21, 1854.

HER Majesty's Acting Consul at Santiago de Cuba having reported to me that a brig (said to be American) was daily expected to land a cargo of negroes at one of the outports to windward of that place, with other particulars of an interesting nature connected with said adventure, I lost no time in addressing a corresponding communication upon the subject to the Captain-General, a copy of which, and of his Excellency's answer, I have now the honour of transmitting to your Lordship.

General Concha informs me that he had given orders for the places alluded to in Mr. Pro-Consul Beattie's letter, to be watched by sea and land and has been pleased to thank me for the information, which must be considered as exceedingly satisfactory.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 517.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Sir,

Havana, October 16, 1854.

HER Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul at Santiago de Cuba writes to me from that place under date the 7th of this month to the following effect:—

"Sir,—I have learned from a trustworthy source that a brig (said to be American) is daily expected to land a cargo of negroes in one of the outports to windward, say at Puerto Escondido, San Antonio, or Savana de la Mar, and that it is thought no impediment will be placed in the way of their disembarkation.

"This adventure is reported to be owned by a firm in Havana, owners of the Tienda "*California*," which has a branch here.

"One of the partners named Martinez was here lately negotiating the affair, and this probably gave rise to the report then current of a landing having been effected of which I advised you at the time."

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 517.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Havana, October 17, 1854.

IN view of your Honour's communication of yesterday's date, transmitting to me a copy of that which you have received from Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul at Santiago de Cuba of the 7th, current respecting the expected expedition of negroes at Puerto Escondido, San Antonio or Sabana la Mar, I have already dictated the necessary orders that they may be watched by sea and land, and I thank your Honour for having afforded me this information.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 518.*The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo, giving an account of an interview which you had had with his Excellency General Concha on the subject of Slave Trade, and I have to state that I approve the language used by you on that occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 519.*The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th ultimo, and I have in reply to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed on that date to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, informing him of the intention of some Cuban slave-traders to fit out a vessel at New York for the purpose of bringing 500 slaves from the west coast of Africa to the Island of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 520.*The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 21st ultimo, in which you state that you had reported to the Captain-General of Cuba intelligence which you had received of an intended landing of slaves, I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 521.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, an extract of a despatch* dated the 12th of August, which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, reporting that several shipments of slaves had recently taken place from the neighbourhood of the ports of Whydah, Ahgwey, and Great and Little Popoe.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 522.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a note which he has received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that, in the present position of affairs in Cuba, the Spanish Government cannot assent to the request made by Her Majesty's Government, that Spain should declare the Slave Trade to be piracy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 523.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of this series dated the 26th ultimo, transmitting to me a copy of a letter addressed by the Superintendent of the Packet Service at Southampton to the Secretary to the Admiralty, respecting thirty-two free Africans who had arrived in England by the West India steamer of the previous month from this island, for whom your Lordship had requested that free passages to Sierra Leone should be provided, and that their expenses also in England had been defrayed at the public cost.

In obedience to your Lordship's instruction that I should report the circumstances under which that "further arrival" took place, and whether they left Havana with my cognizance or authority, in reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 17th of March last, upon the subject of the first of those freed Africans who were returning to their native country, and my acknowledgment thereof in my despatch of the 26th of April, whereby I had been informed by your Lordship of the objection entertained by Her Majesty's

Government to be called upon to provide for the emigration of liberated Africans from Cuba to any place except the British West India colonies.

I have the honour of stating to your Lordship that the free negroes in question certainly left this with my cognizance, inasmuch as that they obtained their passages to Southampton by application to me as the agent of the West India steamers, they paying for the same at the rate of 20*l.* each adult as they did, but that they were provided with the Spanish Government's passports, and neither asked nor required any authorization on my part for their embarkation.

I have reason to think that they took with them sufficient money to defray their charges by the way and provide their passages from England to Africa, inasmuch as that I inquired of them whether such was the case, and was answered, that although some of them might be deficient, they would be assisted by their companions whose means were ample. I most certainly did not hold out to them in any way that they would be provided for as they have been by Her Majesty's Government, nor do I imagine that they had any such expectation themselves, so that with the cunning of their nature, and being perhaps put up to it by such persons as took their depositions which appeared in the "*Anti-Slavery Reporter*" of the 1st ultimo, they concealed their money and simulated destitution to excite the public commiseration.

There are some applications for passages from freed negroes also going to Africa who intend to proceed to Southampton by the November packet, and your Lordship may be assured that I shall let them clearly understand they must be provided from their own resources with the means of defraying their expenses in England, and their passages from thence to their African homes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 524.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 27, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo, in which, with reference to a former despatch of the 31st of May and its inclosures, your Lordship transmits to me a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office, inclosing copy of a despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, in which he gives his opinion as to the manner in which the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March last, respecting slavery in this island, may operate to the prejudice of colonists repairing here from Yucatan, and instructing me to inquire into this matter and report to your Lordship whether the Decrees in question will have the practical operation apprehended by Mr. Wodehouse.

A residence of seventeen years in Mexico, fourteen of which I was employed in the public service, enables me most thoroughly to understand and appreciate the philanthropic conceptions of Governor Wodehouse, and his apprehensions of the abuse which might be exercised over the Indians who are kept in a state of serfdom by their indebtedness to their employers both in Yucatan and in the sugar growing and mining districts of Mexico; but I am of opinion that it is for the purpose of securing their services to themselves that this system is kept up by the masters towards their servants or hired labourers, and would hardly be exercised to oblige the Peones to embark and compel their services abroad. Until this present time, since the promulgation of those Decrees, we have no experience of their practical operation as apprehended by Mr. Wodehouse, and in fact there has been no accession of colonists from Yucatan; but should any come here, your Lordship may rest assured that I shall have their circumstances most thoroughly investigated, so as to detect the slightest injustice, and I am confident that for

that purpose, I should have the most ready cooperation of my worthy colleague the Mexican Consul. I shall nevertheless inquire into the matter, and if anything results thereon I shall not fail to report it to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 525.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

(Extract.)

Havana, October 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 29th ultimo, in which your Lordship informs me that General Concha, before leaving Madrid for Havana, assured Lord Howden that he intended to oppose the fraudulent introduction of negroes into Cuba in the most uncompromising manner, and that he was determined to maintain the Treaties respecting the Slave Trade into which Spain has entered with Great Britain.

I have done myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship that General Concha has repeated those assurances to me, and I have no reason to think that his Excellency will act otherwise than in consonance with those assurances. My apprehension is, that his policy may not be sufficiently bold and energetic to dash the daring of the slave-traders and of the subordinate officers who connive at their evasions of the laws, and I would particularly bring under your Lordship's observation the effect which cannot fail to be produced by its being pretty generally understood that the estates will not be visited by the Government officers to search for Bozals, or for slaves in excess of their registered dotations, excepting under circumstances of the strongest suspicion, or proof of the proprietor's or administrator's delinquency—a subject adverted to by me in my despatch of the 3rd instant, upon which his Excellency had expressed his opinion as differing from that of his predecessor, who had had no such scruples and had in consequence made extensive captures of recently imported Africans, as would doubtless now be the case if certain of the plantations and other places were searched, where recently imported or Bozal negroes must be hidden; for although a small number have been captured by the Government officers, it is well known that many more have been successfully introduced by connivance of the Government subordinates, and that the Captain-General's efforts, most sincerely and anxiously interposed, have been insufficient to discover their hiding-places, such Bozals in considerable numbers having been subsequently sold by public brokers, thus proving the necessity there is, that slave-trading in all its branches must be made piracy in order to put a stop to the horrid and detestable Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 526.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 1, 1854.

IN my despatch dated the 3rd ultimo, I adverted to the information which I had received and communicated to the Captain-General relative to some 500 Bozal negroes corresponding to an expedition which had effected a landing between Mariel and Cabañas, and I mentioned that his Excellency

had adopted the necessary measures with regard thereto; but I regret to state, that although the officers selected for that service proceeded with all vigour and sufficient circumspection, the honest intentions of General Concha were circumvented by the connivance of the subalterns at Cabañas and the negroes were removed and escaped capture.

It is, probably, those very Bozals who have been sold through the brokers here; and I am informed that the coasting schooners bring such slaves into this port, where there is no difficulty in getting them hidden, as coasters are seldom if ever visited by the police upon their arrival here, and that thus there is no difficulty in conveying newly-imported negroes all about the island in the coasters, steamers as well as sailing vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 527.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 6, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 20th ultimo, I beg leave to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the despatch which I have received from Mr. Crampton, Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, in acknowledgment of my letter to him of the 11th October, respecting a slaver which I had been informed it was intended to purchase and dispatch from a port in the United States to the coast of Africa, for the purpose of bringing 500 negroes to this island; and your Lordship will observe that Mr. Crampton had duly made known that information to the United States' Government, and had also communicated with Her Majesty's Consul at New York upon that subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 527.

Mr. Crampton to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Washington, October 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 11th instant, containing information regarding the movements of Don José Egea, who lately left the Havana for New York with the intention of organizing a slave-trading expedition at that port.

I have to thank you for the communication and to inform you that I have lost no time in making known to the Government of the United States the information therein contained.

I have also communicated with Her Majesty's Consul at New York on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 528.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 6, 1854.

IN consequence of an anonymous communication which I received on the 4th instant, I informed his Excellency the Captain-General that it was said, a cargo consisting of some 400 Bozal negroes had been landed with the connivance of the Spanish officers of Batabanó and that the negroes were at Cayo India. At the same time I inclosed the anonymous note to General Concha,

and informing him that said note's cover had the post-mark of the 1st November, that I had sent it to his Excellency for what its information might be worth as to its truth, and for such purpose as he might think necessary, or expedient.

I have not yet been favoured with any reply, but there are rumours about as to an extensive seizure of Bozal negroes having been effected near the Isle of Pines, which may be the cargo alluded to, and as Mr. Beattie, the Acting Consul at Santiago de Cuba, writes me of date the 24th ultimo, that the slaver reported to have been off the coast of that district had proceeded to leeward, not having been able to effect a disembarkation of her cargo. I conjecture that these Bozals may be the same as those respecting whom General Concha, in consequence of my denouncement, had issued the terminant orders referred to in his answer which I did myself the honour of laying before your Lordship in my despatch of the 21st ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 529.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 7, 1854.

WITH reference to that paragraph in my despatch of the 3rd ultimo, respecting information which had reached the Captain-General of a landing of slaves at Nuevitas, I am now enabled to report to your Lordship that his Excellency's officers captured 95, who are ordered to be placed in the Casa de Beneficencia, Puerto Principe.

But I regret to be obliged at the same time to state, that those unfortunate 95 were the weakly emaciated portion of 640 or 680 of which the entire cargo was composed; the remainder, by connivance of the Spanish authorities at that part of the island, having been secured to the slave-trading owners of the expedition.

This cargo was run on the 28th September at Punta Nuevas, a place about eighteen leagues to the eastward of Nuevitas, and on the 30th ultimo another cargo, consisting of 520, was successfully landed near the same place.

Letters which have been seen by my secretary state that these Bozals have been publicly sold at Nuevitas, which means (I must presume) that they were not secretly but openly disposed of, although not perhaps absolutely sold publicly or at auction.

And this is what I would press upon your Lordships' notice—the constantly repeated force of a few negroes, generally the weakly and disabled, of large canoes, being captured, or thrown as a sort of bait to the Spanish Government, whilst the far larger part is safely introduced by connivance of the local authorities, and that this is constantly done with impunity; for with all the rigour pursued even by General Pezucla, who removed and placed under process so many of the subaltern authorities and their inferior officers, not one of them has been made an example that I have ever been able to hear of, which shows clearly that the law as it is, and as it is administered, is wholly inadequate to the correction of the crime, and more and more convinces me that the sooner slave-trading and the dealing in newly introduced slaves, or slaves not duly and authentically registered, is made piracy, the sooner an end will be put to the abominable Traffic; but it must be made to extend to the owners, outfitters; masters and crews of the vessels, to the agents, whether for the embarkation or disembarkation, as well as to the owners of the negroes, their agents and brokers employed in the sale of the Bozals should they be landed, to all purchasers of such illegally imported negroes and to the Lieutenant-Governors and officers of the districts where they may have been landed, the fact of a disembarkation of slaves at any place being taken as presumptive of the officers' complicity, and subjecting them to removal and dismissal from the Royal service.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 530.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 22, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship, a translation * of the Decree which has been published by General Concha, dated the 17th instant, for suppression of the Slave Trade, according to which a fund is to be created out of moneys arising from a premium of twenty-five dollars for each Bozal negro that is rescued from slavery, of which head-money, one-third is to be for the informers whose denouncements lead to the capture of such Bozal negroes upon the coast, or previous to their having been placed upon any property or estate, and the two-thirds remaining of said premium to be for the public authorities and forces who have been instrumental in the apprehension of negroes illegally imported, which rewards are also to be paid to the naval forces in the same proportions, besides that they are to have the entire benefit of the proceeds of the captured slave-vessels and of their cargoes, which may be found on board.

The supreme authority of the island renounces all participation in these premiums or rewards.

That example has been followed by the Commander-in-chief of the Marine, who has also renounced his share of prize-money arising out of the captures of slavers and their cargoes under the Decree referred to.

Numerous printed copies have been sent to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of districts, as well as to their subordinates, the Captains of divisions (*partidos*), and to the coast-guard; they have also been issued to the ships-of-war, so that every circulation has been given to the measure, besides its publication in the "Gazette" and the other newspapers.

But upon the whole, I have to submit to your Lordship, that however beneficial this measure may turn out, it cannot but be considered as opening a wide margin for the safe concealment upon the estates of all the Bozal slaves whom the traders succeed in getting in without the knowledge of the authorities; because the Law or Decree of the 3rd of May last, subject of my despatch of the 4th May, which provided for the registration of the slaves, is repealed, and that being the case, the proprietors of plantations will not find it very difficult to increase the numbers of their gangs in defiance of the laws and of the Treaties, whereas had the registration been carried out as it ought to have been the slave-traders would have found it difficult to dispose of newly imported Africans at any price, and would have been thus compelled to abandon the Traffic as unproductive in proportion to the risk and expenses attending its prosecution.

I have in conversation with General Concha adverted to the prejudicial effects which I feared would be produced by the repeal of the Decree of 3rd of May, as well as by the whole tone and tendency of the measure which I have now the honour of bringing under your Lordship's notice, being calculated to embolden the planters in the purchase of excessive numbers of slaves, and so give encouragement to the slave-traders to engage in new expeditions, since it is evident that his Excellency will not interfere, or at any rate would rather avoid endangering his popularity by the authorizing of interference by his officers upon the estates, to detect and capture the negroes illegally introduced, and who might be found thereon in excess of their respective dotations.

In a former despatch of this series I ventured to express to your Lordship my suspicions that General Concha's policy with regard to the interference of the authorities at the plantations, would not be so bold or decisive as that of his predecessor the Marquis de la Pezuela, which was all that could be wished for, and which, with a correct registration of all the slaves, would doubtless have produced the most triumphant results in the course of a very short time. I have now to express my deep regret that those suspicions, it would appear by the Decree of the 17th instant, are confirmed, and that the slave-trader, if they can escape the vigilance of the Government officers, or otherwise arrange for the safe landing

* See Class A, Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

of their cargoes, will find as ready a market as ever in the Island of Cuba, and I fancy they will easily make up their minds to the necessity of increasing their expenses in proportion to exceed the twenty-five dollars head-money which is now offered to be paid by this Government.

General Concha, in answer to my objections to the repeal of the Decree of registration, stated that said Decree was ineffective, inasmuch as that the registration of slaves upon the estates could not be conclusive whilst there had been no capitation of those slaves not employed in the plantations, and in that I to a certain extent acquiesce; but at the same time I observed to his Excellency that that did not seem to me to be a reason for repealing the measure of registration in the country, however good it might be for losing no time in proceeding with a capitation of all the others in the island, so as to leave no room for escape or evasion of the law, and determination of the Government to put an end to the detestable Traffic, and I hope that your Lordship will take a similar view of this important matter and urge the necessity of a full and complete registration of the slaves all over this island, as well as at Puerto Rico, being proceeded with as soon as possible, and not be delayed on any account or pretext whatever, as otherwise the Bozal negroes continually introduced here, and I fear also in the other island, must be adding to the number of the slaves and encouraging the slave-traders to renewed efforts in the prosecution of the detestable and demoralizing Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 531.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General upon the subject of a letter which I received from Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's 'Commissary Judge, in consequence of his having had information as to a landing of Bozal negroes, consisting of upwards of 700, at a place in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, about the 19th ultimo. A copy of Mr. Backhouse's letter I have also done myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship in the inclosure of this despatch, by which you will perceive that the story told to Her Majesty's Judge was sufficiently circumstantial; but it appears, by his Excellency the Captain-General's answer to my official communication, that no information of any such occurrence had reached this Government, and General Concha therefore did not think the statement was true—a conclusion to which I had come from the first, as I stated in my answer to Mr. Backhouse, because Her Majesty's brig "Espiegle" had been specially watching that part of the coast from the 13th to the 22nd at my request, in consequence of information which I had received that a slaver was expected there about that time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 531.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Sir,

Havana, November 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Excellency a copy of a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Judge of the Mixed Court at this place respecting the disembarkation of upwards of 700 Bozal negroes, which, he states, "he had been positively assured, on what he believes to be very good authority," had taken place in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, on or about the 19th ultimo, &c. Mr. Backhouse requests me to make this statement known to your Excellency in order that such inquiries may be made, and for

such further steps as your Excellency may think proper, in conformity with the Treaty of 1835, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have therefore to beg the favour of your Excellency to acquaint me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, whether any such landing of slaves as that reported to Her Majesty's Judge has taken place, together with such particulars of the case as may have become known to your Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 531.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Havana, November 21, 1854.

I HAVE received your Honour's attentive communication of the 18th instant, in which with reference to another of the Judge of the Mixed Court in this city, Mr. G. C. Backhouse, of the previous day's date, and with a copy thereof, you are pleased to inquire of me whether intelligence has reached me of a disembarkation of upwards of 700 Bozal negroes having been effected in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, about the 19th of the last month, as said judge considers himself entitled to believe upon trustworthy grounds; and I can assure your Honour in answer that I have not received the least indication of any such occurrence, and for that reason I consider that statement in no way well founded.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 531.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Havana, November 17, 1854.

I AM positively assured, on what I believe to be very good authority, that on or about the 19th ultimo, a cargo of upwards of 700 negroes was landed from a large brig, in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda; I am told it was at the place where the landing is said to have been made in June last from the "*Grey Eagle*," namely, at Ortigosa.

The large brig in question is said to have sailed, immediately after having discharged her cargo, for the United States; she is said to have been built at Baltimore, to have been commanded on her recent slave-trading voyage by a Frenchman, and to have come to this island under Spanish colours.

The French captain is said to have boasted to have made seven successful slave-trading voyages to this island. I regret to say I have not heard his name. He is said to have come after his last voyage, to Havana, and to have embarked here, on the 23rd ultimo, without a passport, in one of the steamers for the United States, and it was said that he was going to Baltimore to take command of another vessel already prepared for a voyage to Africa.

I have been unable to ascertain the fate of the negroes after their landing, but I am informed that none of them have been seized by the local authorities.

I have to request that you will make this statement known to his Excellency the Captain-General, in order that he may make such inquiries, and take such further steps as he may think proper in conformity with the Treaty of 1835, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 531.

Consul-General Crawford to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Havana, November 18, 1854.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, respecting a landing of upwards of 700 negroes at Ortigosa, in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, on or about the 19th ultimo, which were brought by a large brig, said to have been commanded by a Frenchman whose name you had not heard, and that the said vessel had sailed immediately, but the master, who boasted that he had made seven successful slave-trading voyages to this island, came after this, his last expedition, to Havana, and it was said had embarked here on the 23rd ultimo, without a passport, in one of the steamers for the United States, for which destination the brig from which the 700 odd slaves are said to have been landed had sailed. Also that the said master, it was said, was going to Baltimore, to take the command of another vessel already prepared for a voyage to Africa, and that according to the positive assurance which (you believed to be on very good authority) you had received, none of those Bozals had been seized by the local authorities, and you had been unable to ascertain their fate subsequent to their disembarkation.

Agreeably to your request I laid a copy of your letter before his Excellency the Captain-General, accompanied by a request, as on the other side hereof copied, that he would do me the favour of acquainting me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, whether such landing of slaves has taken place, together with such particulars of the case as may have become known to his Excellency.

I shall do myself the pleasure of acquainting you with the result, and in the meantime I have to state that no information of the kind had reached me previous to the receipt of your letter, and Her Majesty's brig "*Espiègle*," which sailed on a cruize from this port on the 13th, was specially recommended by me to watch the coast from Mariel to Bahia Honda, but had seen no suspicious vessel when she returned here on the 22nd ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 532.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 24, 1854.

IN my despatch dated the 6th instant,* I adverted to a rumour of an extensive seizure of Bozal negroes having been effected at the Isle of Pines, by the Government officers, and also that a cargo had been landed near Batabanó.

I have now to state to your Lordship that General Concha dispatched an efficient officer to investigate the truth or otherwise of said rumours, and that they have been found to be destitute of all foundation, so far as the naval Captain who was employed upon that service was able to ascertain.

In the same despatch, I reported to your Lordship, that the slaver which Mr. Acting Consul Beattie informed me had been on the coast of Santiago de Cuba, not having been able to effect the disembarkation of her cargo, was supposed to have proceeded on to leeward; and as a cargo of Bozal negroes, considerable in numbers, has, I learn from the Government here, been landed safely at Ensenada de Cochinos, I have no doubt of its being the same alluded to, and if so it has been discovered by Mr. Beattie, subsequently, to have consisted of 610 negroes, and that the vessel was a polacca under Spanish colours.

The Spanish Government is using all means to capture these Bozals, and to apprehend the parties engaged in the transaction; but I have not heard that their endeavours have been attended by success.

In my despatch of the 7th instant, which I had the honour of

addressing to your Lordship, I reported the disembarkation of two cargoes upon the north coast, at Punta Nuevas, consisting of 640 to 680, and of 520 unfortunate victims of cupidity. Those three cargoes amount together to about 1,800; and I have information, which I lost no time in sending to the Captain-General, that another slaver is expected at or near Nuevitas, respecting which his Excellency at once has issued the most strict orders.

But, my Lord, the registration being done away with by the Decree of the 17th instant, there can be but little doubt that not only those 1,800, but all the other Bozals that have, for several months past, been introduced into the island contrary to the provisions of the Laws and of the Treaties, are, by this time, safely incorporated upon the estates, and are, to all intents and purposes, made slaves of beyond the reach of the inert dispositions of the recent Decree; and that the same thing will happen as regards any other Bozals who may be brought there cannot be much doubted, for the reasons I have given to your Lordship in my despatch of the 22nd instant.

Under these circumstances, it seems to me that the sooner recourse is had to a complete registration of all the slaves the better; and that such registration should be made use of to check the augmentation of the numbers of the slaves by every means, and which no delicacy or consideration on the part of the Government should allow to be deviated from, as has now been the case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 533.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, inclosing General Concha's Decree of the 17th of November, which repeals General Pezuela's Bandos of the 3rd of May and 28th of July last, and substitutes for them new measures in order to provide for the seizure of newly imported negroes, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of an instruction* which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid upon this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 534.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 27, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 27th October, transmitting a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, inclosing a copy of a note addressed to him on the 13th of September, by the United States' Secretary of State, in which Mr. Marcy says that proceedings have been instituted against the parties implicated in the case of the "*Grey Eagle*," and that those proceedings will be vigorously prosecuted to a termination.

I observe by the last American newspapers† that Smith, or Schmidt, who was the master of a vessel called the "*Julia Moulton*," which was burnt on the south coast of this island, after landing a large cargo of Bozal negroes at the Zarsa,‡ has been tried and convicted of slave-trading, and upon his trial, before the United States' District Court at New York, the instructions which he had to

* No. 429.

† "*New York Herald*" of the 9th instant.

‡ They were landed in June last, and were taken on board at or near Ambrizette, 644 or 645 in number.

guide him upon his arrival off the coast of Cuba, were produced in evidence. I have the honour of inclosing a copy of said instructions to your Lordship, which I have had copied from said newspaper, considering that it may be of importance to transmit the same to the Admiralty as containing information which may be serviceable to Her Majesty's cruisers, and with that view I have also transmitted copies to the Admiral Commander-in-chief of the North American and West India Station, and to the Commodore commanding Her Majesty's ships and vessels at Port Royal, Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 534.

Extract from the "New York Herald," of November 9, 1854.

Charge against Captain James Smith of the brig "Julia Moulton," for alleged Slave Traffic.

United States' Circuit Court. Hon. Judges Nelson and Betts presiding.

November 8.—*The United States against James Smith.*

James Will re-examined by Mr. McKeon, District-Attorney. *Q.* Take these charts and show us the course which the vessel took after she left New York on her way to the coast of Africa.

Witness marked the course on the charts, and stated that she crossed the line between 4° and 5° longitude, going to the southward of the Cape de Verd Islands.

Q. Where did they take you to on the coast of Africa?—*A.* South of the river Congo; Ambresetta is marked on the map; the second point where we took in the negroes is a little further south; we lay about a mile or a mile and a half out in the open sea; on our way to Cuba we steered westerly across the line at longitude 25° .

Q. Point out the course you took when making Cuba.—*A.* When making Cuba, we went between the Islands Martinique and Dominique, and passed San Domingo and Jamaica; we entered to the Cuban shore between two keys, Zirzos de Fuera and Marcias de Fuera.

Q. Is Trinidad de Cuba marked on that map?—*A.* Yes; the port Caselva is represented on it; Caio Blanco and Caio Zarso; Caio Zarso and Port Caselva are the same things. [Witness marks on the map the place where the vessel was burned, and also where the negroes were landed.]

Counsel then read the registry bond, the temporary registry, the Boston manifest, the list of the cargo, the master's oath on clearing outwards, dated 11th February, 1854, which stated that the manifest contains a just and true account of all the cargo contained, and that he believed all the foreign duty thereon was duly paid. The other documents produced on trial were read, including the letter of instructions, of which the following is a translation:—

"Instructions to be complied with by Captain James Smith, on his arrival at the Island of Cuba, in the brig '*Julia Moulton*.' The vessel, after taking a cargo on the coast of Africa, is to be so navigated as to make the southern coast of the Island of Cuba, managing to keep out of sight of the coast of the Port of Trinidad, without (if it be possible) sighting any of the capes to the windward of it; and when in latitude $21^{\circ} 29' 30''$ north, and longitude $79^{\circ} 42'$ east, Greenwich meridian, she will be between the Cayos (Capes) of Machos and Zarzos, then she will stay either at anchor or cruizing, according as the weather may permit, showing over the prow a flag half white and half red, the colors being perpendicular. It will be expected that in said port there will be a smaller vessel, which may, on sight of the signal banner, and having recognized what it is, approach said vessel, and on board there will be a pilot, with a letter from the consignee, Don Salvador de Castro, to whom, that is the pilot, you shall surrender her, and he will bring her where she is to be discharged, observing all the precautions that may be directed. The debarkation will be made in coast-boats, which will go to the vessel at the point where the pilot shall bring her, and their owners will bear a letter from Don Salvador, which they shall deliver

to the captain, and on sight of it he may deliver the cargo without any requisition. The captain may disembark with the cargo in the boats, commanding them up to the point where the pilot assumes the responsibility, so that he may there expect the orders of Don Salvador de Castro, not permitting any more of his crew to go ashore, nor be in the boats carrying the cargo. The time he shall remain in the point indicated for his return to expect the agent, will be at the utmost six hours. At the expiration of this time, if there be nothing in sight, the vessel shall continue on her course towards Cayo Blanco, which is in sight of Trinidad, some ten miles from the port, and shall approach it from the southward, where she will be boarded by some of the pilots of Trinidad, who generally reside in the said Cayo, and on coming alongside the captain shall ask the names of those on board, (the boat,) and he shall be told that the pilot's name is José Sierra. Then he shall permit him to come on board, and will follow the instructions which he may give him; then he shall be advised by Don Salvador to bring her where she is to be discharged. If the agent who may be in the boat be not such José Sierra, he shall, in that case, deliver, to whomever it may be, a letter for Don Salvador, in which he shall mention his arrival and the number of packages on board, and, after delivering the letter, he will immediately sail outside to pass the night in sight of land, taking care to keep clear of the cayos (harbour) of Manchos and Zarze, on account of the current of the waters, and on the next day he shall return to the point first indicated, where he shall certainly meet a vessel with the signal indicated, and the agent who is to receive charge. If, on his return in sight of Trinidad, he may see any suspicious vessel, he will immediately sail in the direction of Cayo Blanco (circumstances permitting), to communicate with the agents of Trinidad, as I have stated, and he shall not there make the signal indicated, but instead hoist the flag of the vessel, to signalise that he wants a pilot, and on meeting the pilot's boat at that of the said Sierra, the vessel shall be immediately taken where she will be promptly discharged. But if none of these persons shall be in the boat, he shall deliver to whomsoever may be in it a letter for Don Salvador (as advised,) and shall, without loss of time, set all sail for Boca Grande, and when he gets to latitude $21^{\circ} 1'$ north, longitude $79^{\circ} 24'$ east, Greenwich meridian, Cayo Grande shall be three miles to the north-east of Cape Breton, and between the two he will see Boca Grande, by which he shall enter, and shall proceed to Cayo Rabi-orcado, and there he shall anchor to await the arrival of the boats for disembarkation. If he should be pursued by a suspicious vessel, in seeking to procure a pilot in Cayo Blanco, so that he cannot give notice of his arrival, he shall proceed, as I have stated above, to Cayo Rabi-orcado, and there on anchoring he shall send in the ship's boat, the pilot and two sailors, to procure the agent Sierra; and from there he will advise Don Salvador, and will immediately return on board with said agent, so as to carry the vessel to the point which may have been ordered.

No. 535.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Havana, December 9, 1854.

I HAVE received from Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, a despatch dated the 3rd instant,* with its respective inclosures, which he has addressed to your Lordship, and has sent under flying seal, in order to apprise me fully of the arrangements which Mr. Doyle has good reason to believe, have been made between a certain Colonel Jimenez on behalf of Messrs. Goicoria of this place and the Mexican Government, to the effect of compelling all the Indians who are made prisoners in the war which is still raging in Yucatan between them and the Mexicans, to come to this island under a condition, forced upon them, to serve as colonists during a period of five years, and it appears that for this privilege a sum of 20,000 dollars is stipulated for, to be paid by Jimenez to General Santa Ana.

It seems to me a consequence of this extraordinary arrangement that the war in Yucatan should be prolonged by the premiums which the Messrs.

* No. 264.

Goicoria, through their agent Jimenez, would doubtless distribute to the Chiefs of the Mexican troops in Yucatan, for the devastation of the Indian villages, and the capture of the Indian inhabitants, altogether producing the most dreadfully demoralising effects and atrocities too shocking to contemplate in anticipation.

I shall seek an interview with General Concha, with a view to impress upon his Excellency the expediency of his opposing the scheme of the Messrs. Goicoria, and refuse admission to colonists being introduced here under the circumstances denounced by Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 536.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received January 1, 1855.*)

My Lord,

Havana, December 9, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 7th ultimo, in which I reported to your Lordship that two cargoes of Bozal negroes had been landed near to Nuevitas, consisting of 640 to 680 the one, and 520 the other, his Excellency the Captain-General has informed me that he has not been able to obtain any information as to the last-mentioned cargo, and that the subaltern authorities have reported that no such disembarkation has taken place.

I have no reason to doubt the honest intentions of General Concha, and am satisfied that his orders were most decided upon the subject of the two cases referred to; but when we have seen that his subalterns have not captured the negroes admitted to have been landed—that is, the remainder of the 640 or 680—only 95 of them having been taken, as I did myself the honour of reporting in my despatch now referred to, I am inclined to place but little faith in their statement with regard to the second cargo; the more so, as my information upon the subject came from a party who was at Nuevitas at that time, and who asserted the fact of the last-mentioned disembarkation most positively.

In consequence of the information which I received from the Government Secretary, and which I duly reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 24th ultimo, as to a landing of Bozals at Ensenada de los Cochinos, I expressed my surprise to Mr. Vice-Consul Fowler at his not having informed me thereof.

In the first instance, the Acting Vice-Consul answered, that he had not done so, because that he himself had not, until the receipt of my letter, had any information upon the subject, and subsequently he stated that the fact was exceedingly doubtful, and from all he had been able to learn it was not the case that any such landing had been effected; and General Concha, two days ago, informed me that he also was inclined to think that the report which had reached him respecting the affair at the Ensenada de los Cochinos was untrue, as by his orders the most strict search had been made, and inquiry gone into, at and around the place indicated, but that there had been no trace discovered of any such landing.

What, then, has become of the slaver which Acting-Consul Beattie reported as having been unable to disembark her cargo in the district of Cuba, and which, having obtained some provisions at Savanna la Mar, near Santiago, proceeded on to the westward?

His Excellency the Captain-General had information, two days ago, of a number of Bozal negroes having been seen at a place called Alacranes, in the district of Matanzas, and he immediately sent a telegraphic communication to the Governor to endeavour to arrest them and investigate the matter; I have not yet heard with what success. All this goes to prove that there are numerous slavers about the island seeking opportunity to land their cargoes, and that some, if not all of them, will succeed in doing so, by connivance of the local authorities, there is little doubt, notwithstanding the well-intentioned endeavours of General Concha to the contrary. The great obstacle to the introduction of slaves (the difficulty of their incorporation upon the estates being removed by the repeal of the Decree of the 3rd of May), every exertion will be made to get in Bozal

negroes before recourse can be had to that most efficacious measure, the full and complete registration of all the slaves, and the stringent use of that measure as a preventative of further importations from the coast of Africa, or elsewhere, of human beings to be held in slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 537.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th of December last,* and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your intention of endeavouring to induce General Concha to oppose the arrangement entered into by Messrs. Goicoria and Co. of the Havana with the Mexican Government for the purchase of the penal services of the Indians who may be made prisoners in the war which is now being carried on in Yucatan.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 538.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 18, 1855.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 21, 1854.

A DECREE dated the 19th instant, was published in the "Gazette" of yesterday, and officially repeated in the "Diario" of to-day, which provides for the registration of the slaves, who are in future to be provided each with a ticket, the counterpart of which is to remain in the book from whence said tickets have been cut. These are to be renewed every six months and are to be paid for at the time of their being issued, or renewed, at the rate of one real for each slave at the plantations and one dollar for each slave occupied otherwise than in the labour of the estates, thus constituting a tax which will amount to a considerable sum in the aggregate, upon which the Lieutenant-Governors are to receive 2 per cent. and the other officers 4 per cent. of the amounts they respectively collect and pay into the public treasury.

At any rate there is to be, from the 1st February next, in the manner I have described, which is more explicitly expressed in the Decree itself, a complete registration of the slaves, and the provision which is made, that each slave shall be furnished with a ticket of security, which is to be produced to the authorities whenever the slaves are moved from one place to another in bodies of more than five, will operate as an effective check to the transit of Bozals, if the present Decree is enforced and acted on as it ought to be. It is to be lamented that General Concha should have allowed the time from the date of his Decree of the 17th ultimo to elapse without substituting that now promulgated, which will take effect ten weeks afterwards, but during which interval, there can be but little doubt that all the Bozal negroes recently introduced have been located upon the estates.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 539.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 18, 1855.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 22, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 7th November and of the 9th instant,† relative to several expeditions of Bozal negroes which I had reason to believe had been landed at Nuevitas, or in that district, and the

* No. 535.

† Nos. 529 and 536.

Captain-General's information which induced him to doubt the correctness of mine respecting the second cargo which, I had learnt, was successfully disembarked at Puntas Nuevas, I have now the honour of reporting to your Lordship, that having received the particulars of those transactions, I considered it my duty to acquaint his Excellency of what had become known and was generally believed at Puerto Principe to be true by those persons who are supposed to have the means of knowing what had been going on in that jurisdiction.

I consequently transmitted an extract from my correspondent's letter dated the 15th instant from Puerto Principe to the Captain-General, and I have the honour herewith to lay before your Lordship a copy of my said communication and of General Concha's answer of this date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 539.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, December 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing to your Excellency an extract from a letter which I have received from Puerto Principe, dated the 15th instant, containing some observations upon the recent introductions of Bozal negroes near to Nuevitas and at Santa Cruz.

The statements in these observations is what is currently believed to be true by those persons at Puerto Principe who are supposed to know what has been going on in that jurisdiction, and the fact of a cargo having been landed at Santa Cruz is corroborated by Her Majesty's Consul at Santiago de Cuba, who writes me, that he has reason to believe that the slaver which took on board provisions at Savannah la Mar and proceeded on to the westward had at last effected a landing of her cargo of Bozals somewhere to the eastward of Trinidad.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 539.

Observations as to the three expeditions of Negroes lately introduced in the jurisdictions of Nuevitas and Santa Cruz. Puerto Principe, December 15, 1854.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

THE first came consigned to Don José Planas, merchant of Puerto Principe, who without using any precaution went to Nuevitas to distribute them (the negroes) amongst those who had engaged to take them, but in the act of setting out he was laid hold of by order of the higher alcalde Don Joaquin Ybañes who (as it is inferred by his future conduct), took the step because he had been bribed as well as the then Governor of Nuevitas (Don J. Polo) to which person, it is publicly known, they gave 800 or 900 ounces (2,800*l.* or 3,000*l.*).

Upon this imprisonment taking place the most shameful scenes occurred. The partners of Planas who were compromised to receive the negroes, robbed each other, and especially Don Mauricio Montejo (Gentleman of the Court and Regidor of the Town Council), who in his double capacity, he besides being a man that is well off, committed every sort of crime he thought fit, stealing more than 60 negroes.

At first the alcalde Ybañes, in order to ingratiate himself with the Captain-General (at that time General Pezuela), also committed many irregularities to accomplish the capture of 90 of the negroes, at the same time he remained

with some of them at his house. In short he had lent himself to the cause because the same Ybañes knew there was another mine in preparation for him, which he supposed would be worth more, and so he sent the case to the Audiencia where it is still for its result.

Afterwards there came another expedition consigned to Don José Llames, the post-master at Puerto Principe, who rendered daring by his losses in the other adventure, and being a friend of Ybañes, took good care to bribe him (Ybañes) with 500 ounces; and, not only him, but all the officers at Nuevitas, from the Governor (now Don J. Sanches) to the corporals of the Marine including the Captain of Nuevas Grandes and the Commandant of Artillery of the Tower of San Ylario, for which reason this cargo of 500 negroes were all well sold, with exception of 25 sick, who were delivered up to the authorities to cover the proceedings.

The payments were made publicly at the post-office house where Llames is living, one of the partners of the outfitters' establishment, Messrs. Martinez and Brothers, having come from Havana. Ybañes said nothing, although the scandalous affair was denounced to him, nor did any other of the authorities. What has attracted attention is, that the post-master Llames has bought an estate for 8,000 dollars immediately thereafter.

The expedition at Santa Cruz was unfortunate, many of the negroes having died, but notwithstanding they got in 300. So that not only Llames and Ybañes and others, such as the present Governor of Nuevitas, the Captain of Nuevas Grandes and the authorities of Santa Cruz have deceived his Excellency the Captain-General as to the three expeditions referred to, and have introduced more than 1,400 negroes, and there would have been more than 1,800 if that of Santa Cruz had not been so unlucky.

Inclosure 3 in No. 539.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 22, 1854.

BEING acquainted of your Honour's communication, I shall take the necessary steps to find out the truth of those acts which your Honour denounces in the note inclosed, it being the interest of Her Majesty's Government and mine also as her representative in this island, to investigate as much as possible those acts so as to come out in the defence of those functionaries that might in that note be offended, as in the contrary case, although there may not be direct proofs of the facts denounced, at least a moral conviction of the connivance that there may have been by any of them, so as to impose upon them the chastisement of which they have made themselves worthy.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 540.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of December, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between you and the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting certain reported landings of Bozal negroes, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 541.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of December, inclosing two copies of a Decree which was published on the 19th of December by the Captain-General of Cuba, directing that the owners of all the slaves in the island are to provide their slaves with pass-tickets, which are to be issued and registered by the proper authorities, and to be renewed half-yearly.

I have to instruct you to express to General Concha the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the adoption of this measure, which they trust will be followed by others calculated to carry fully into effect the provisions of the Royal Decrees of the 22nd of March, 1854.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 542.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, an extract of a letter* which I have received from the Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court at St. Helena, reporting the condemnation by that Court of the British vessel "*Newport*" of Jersey, on the ground of her being engaged in the Slave Trade; in which extract, the judge alludes to a person named Garrido, who he states is employed in travelling to and from Africa, London, New York, and Havana, for the transaction of Slave Trade business.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

[A similar despatch was addressed also to Mr. Barclay, Her Majesty's Consul at New York.]

No. 543.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 7, 1855.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 29, 1854.

WITH reference to what I had the honour of addressing to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 9th instant,† accompanying Mr. Doyle's of the 3rd instant, relative to what he had learnt of a certain arrangement which had been entered into with the Mexican Government by Colonel Jimenez, as agent for Messrs. Goicoria and Brothers, of this city, for the forcible destination of the Indians taken prisoners by the Government forces in the war of castes which is, and has for some time been, raging in Yucatan, as colonists to be brought to this island for the benefit of Messrs. Goicoria and Brothers, to be made to work for a period of five years. I beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General upon this subject, and his answer, which is so far satisfactory, that if the Spanish Consul takes care to inform himself of the circumstances under which any of those unfortunate creatures may have been compelled to contract themselves with Colonel Jimenez, or the Messrs. Goicoria's agents in Yucatan, it is very unlikely that his consent will be obtained to send them on here; and therefore, they will be spared the miseries of five years' forced hard labour, and avoid the risk of that period's being indefinitely prolonged in a state the nearest possible to absolute slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* See Class A, No. 105.

† No. 535.

Inclosure 1 in No. 543.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, December 19, 1854.

I BEG leave to state to your Excellency that I have received a despatch from his Excellency Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, which I consider it my duty to communicate to your Excellency.

It appears that a certain Colonel Jimenez (who was formerly aide-de-camp to General Santa Anna) went to Yucatan some months since as agent for Don Tito Vecino, and the house of Goicoria Hermanos, of this city, to induce Yucatan Indians to come to this island as colonists, under the conditions which have been prescribed by this Government, and the said Colonel Jimenez not having succeeded in that object, he went on to Mexico, and as the agent of Messrs. Goicoria, he made propositions to General Santa Anna, with respect to the Indians who had been, and might be, made prisoners in the war which has been for some time past, and is still raging in the Peninsula of Yucatan.

Jimenez's proposal was, that Messrs. Goicoria, or the parties whom he represented, should supply and maintain at their own expenses, 200 armed men and officers, to make war against the Indians, in aid of the Mexican forces; and that they should be allowed to keep, for their own purposes, all the Indians they could make prisoners, paying for each a sum of 15 dollars to the Mexican Government.

That offer, however, was not accepted; but Mr. Doyle has good reason to believe that an arrangement has been entered into between that Government and Colonel Jimenez, for account of Goicoria Hermanos, as follows:—

That the sum of 20,000 dollars should be paid by Jimenez, or Goicoria, to the Mexican Government, in two payments of 10,000 dollars each. That on the first 10,000 dollars being paid, all the prisoners fit for colonists, who are already taken, and in the hands of the Mexican authorities in Yucatan, shall be delivered over to said Jimenez, or the agent of Messrs. Goicoria; and on the payment of the other 10,000 dollars, all such Indians, prisoners, as had been made since the date of the first payment, and all those taken in future, during the continuance of the war in Yucatan, were to be placed at the disposal of said Jimenez, or that of Goicoria Hermanos.

That said Indians, prisoners, could only be sent to the Island of Cuba, where they were to remain for five years in the power of Goicoria and Co., after which time they were to be free; their five years' labour being considered by the Mexican Government as sufficient punishment for their having taken up arms in rebellion.

Mr. Doyle informs me that Colonel Jimenez had left Mexico for the purpose of carrying the above-mentioned arrangement into effect; and he expresses his apprehensions that the Indians, prisoners, referred to therein, will be forced to embark for Cuba, as he understands, that General Vega, who is commanding the Mexican forces in Yucatan, had lately ordered them all to be hanged.

It must be quite clear to your Excellency's enlightened understanding that colonists introduced into this island under such circumstances, cannot be desirable.

Men who have been taken in arms against their legitimate rulers, and disposed of as those Indians have been, by the Mexican Government, into banishment for a period of five years, I submit to your Excellency's illustration, cannot safely be admitted as colonists into Cuba. Nor do they come under the description of colonists according to the Regulations of Her Catholic Majesty, since they have not contracted of their own free will and accord, but have been forced to emigrate, consequently they can never be willing or obedient during the period of their forced servitude.

But above all, I would most earnestly draw your Excellency's attention to the animus which has been developed in this transaction, as shown in the first proposition of Colonel Jimenez, to maintain a considerable force of armed men and officers, to make war upon the Indians of Yucatan, under the stipulation that all the prisoners should be at his, or Messrs. Goicoria's entire disposition

and disposal! Had such a proposition been agreed to, I need not depict to your Excellency the horrors, the devastation, and the atrocities which would have been practised upon the defenceless Indians, in order to effect their capture, to be sent here for the satisfaction of the avarice of Jimenez, or of the Messrs. Goicoria, whose schemes have been discovered by Her Majesty's Minister, and which I have the honour of describing to your Excellency in this communication.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 543.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your Honour's communication of the 19th instant, and I observe what you have copied to me of the despatch which was addressed to you by his Excellency Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Mexico, relative to the propositions made by Colonel Jimenez, as agent for Don Tito Vecino, and the house of Goicoria Brothers, of this city, to contract Yucatan Indians, for the purpose of making them come here as colonists.

In answer, I have to state to you that of this date I have copied your communication referred to, to Her Catholic Majesty's Consul in Yucatan, in order that in the event of Yucatan Colonists being sent, he may assure himself that they come of their own free will; the only thing which this Government can do, seeing, that by the Royal Decree of Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, the introduction of colonists from Yucatan is permitted for the period of two years, to which effect there exists a contract which has not yet expired.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 544.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 7, 1855.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a Decree,* dated the 28th instant, which was published in the Government "Gazette" yesterday, and officially repeated in the "Diario de la Marina" of this date, relative to the emancipados and apprentices, or recently captured Bozal negroes of various classes, sexes, and ages.

The control assumed by the authorities over the emancipados at the time they were declared to be free, was limited to the obliging of them to contract themselves for the period of one year in the service of such masters or other employers as they might agree with, and although I at the time did not consider such exercise of control as compatible with the principle of absolute freedom to which all the emancipados of the class respecting whom an assurance was given to Her Majesty's Government by that of Spain through General Sancho, who was at that time Her Catholic Majesty's Minister in London, I did not view it as being altogether exceptionable, because it combined a certain amount of protection which those people might require who did not apply themselves to earn a livelihood, and the proportion of their wages retained for the formation of a fund, which was to be used for their support and maintenance in case of sickness or other misfortune, could not be deemed other than a provident measure on the part of the Government.

But the present Decree, extending the periods for which emancipados, as the Government persists in calling them, are to serve, and including in the liabilities to the operation of this new measure, those who have been declared to be absolutely free, and whose absolute freedom Her Majesty's Government had an undoubted right to demand after their prolonged state of probation,

* See Class A, Inclosure 5 in No. 39.

consider it my duty to bring under your Lordship's notice, as being highly objectionable, and if passed over, there seems to me to be a danger that the trespass so manifest in the present Decree might be alleged as a rule for compelling the freed negroes to contract themselves to serve for a longer period than the three years now imposed upon them, or even for an indefinite term of servitude, all the time contributing a large proportion of their earnings to the fund I have alluded to, which is said to be for their support in distress, misfortune, or old age.

It will not, however, escape your Lordship's observation, that one fourth, or 25 per cent., of those people's hard earnings is a disproportionate amount of contribution to the Benevolent Fund, and, also, that the arbitrary limitation of their wages to eight dollars a-month for males, and six dollars a-month for females, is what they ought not to be subjected to; for although there may be some who could not earn more, the greater number of them are capable of earning higher rates: besides which, the limitation operates as a bar to their improvement, if artisans, and there is no emulation, as the good, and the indifferent, and the inferior, and the worthless, must all be paid alike, even as ordinary labourers.

I have not deemed it advisable to address General Concha upon this subject, his Excellency not having alluded to it in any conversation I have had with him hitherto, and I await your Lordship's instructions.

Many more points will occur to your Lordship's superior intelligence besides those I have touched upon in this despatch. I am confident that the philanthropic intentions of Her Majesty's Government are not fulfilled towards the emancipados, who are entitled to their absolute freedom, if they are left in the condition they now are, and are subjected to measures from which any other class of free black or coloured population is exempt in Cuba. My opinion is, that they ought to be, to all intents and purposes, free; and if that is not conceded, let them be delivered to us with their free papers, they and all their progeny to be sent to some of our own colonies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 545.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, January, 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 24th November last,* transmitting to me for my information, an extract from a despatch dated the 12th of August, which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, reporting that several shipments of slaves had recently taken place from the neighbourhood of the ports of Whydah, Abgwey, and Great and Little Popoe.

In consequence thereof I shall address a communication to his Excellency the Captain-General, embodying the intelligence which has been conveyed by Mr. Consul Campbell; but I am apprehensive that the great lapse of time since the date of the Consul's despatch will have been more than sufficient for the slavers alluded to to have reached their destinations, and most probably they were those that effected the landing of their cargoes at Punta Nueva and Santa Cruz, referred to in my despatches as having been smuggled in under the circumstances stated in my despatch of the 22nd ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* No. 521.

No. 546.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 7.)

(Extract.)

Havana, January 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 24th of November last,* transmitting for my information a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a note which he had received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that in the present position of affairs in Cuba, the Spanish Government cannot assent to the request made by Her Majesty's Government that Spain should declare the Slave Trade to be piracy.

I have read M. de Pacheco's note, and I most thoroughly agree in the regret which has been expressed by Lord Howden to the Spanish Government, that such has been the conclusion which they have thought it their duty to arrive at.

The pretence as to the outcry which was raised in the United States by the annexionists, and which was echoed by the discontented here, of the Africanization of Cuba, had no connexion whatever with Slave Trade. That bugbear, which had no foundation whatever, was invented upon the occasion of the rumour which was raised for the purpose of discrediting and rendering the Marquis de la Pezuela unpopular, and it had its origin in some correspondence which became public, and had passed between the Archbishop of Cuba and his Excellency, which the filibusteros falsely stated had a tendency to encourage the marriages of blacks with whites, &c., whereas General Pezuela's policy did not in any way alter the rule as all along established.

Then again a handle was made of the enlistment of free negroes, of whom two companies were to be added to the strength of four of the regiments.

But first of all the "Africanization" was agitated in the United States, and availed of here by the discontented portion of the Cubans, in consequence of General Cañedo having been understood to let his intention be known, that in case of his being pressed, in the event of lawless invasion by Sympathizers—*alias* Filibusteros—from the United States, and rebellion in the island, he would arm the negroes against the white insurgents. In my opinion, however, no person whatever had the slightest apprehension as to the Africanization of the island, and it seems to me to be very extraordinary that M. Pacheco should allude to that pretence of alarm, now almost forgotten, the more so as the putting a stop to the introduction of more Africans would surely be the most effectual means of preventing Africanization.

We have had so long experience of the inadequacy of the Government of Cuba to put it down, that admitting the best and most honest intentions on the part of the Captain-General to do so, his measures are constantly evaded by those under his orders, whose honour is not proof against the golden temptations of the slave-traders, so that we have never yet heard of a cargo of Bozal negroes arriving on the coast of Cuba which has not been landed, and we have never known an officer that was in a responsible situation at the districts where the disembarkations have been effected, however notorious their connivance may have been, that have been disgraced or punished; on the contrary, they have all of them been declared innocent, because of the difficulty of obtaining proofs conclusive of their infamy, and they have, one after the other, been restored to their rank and employment.

We have at this time some very glaring instances of the useless hope of convicting a white person accused of criminal practices regarding coloured persons, or slave-trading, whether it is that there is a fellowship of the traders which binds them to provide the means for protecting such delinquents when accused, by getting the evidence against them quashed, or out of the way, or that their purses are at the disposition of the accused, in a country like this where money, if sufficiently abundant, can effect anything. It is most certainly true, that none of such prosecutions have led to the conviction of the offenders,

and we have an officer of the Customs who falsely reported the death of an emancipado, who was sold by his wife, restored to his Comptrollership; and we have the Town-Major, just appointed by General Concha, who has more than once been accused of conniving at the introduction of Bozal negroes when Lieutenant-Governor of certain districts, and left under process for the last of these offences by the Marquis de la Pezuela.

The Penal Law provides that the offences under it shall be tried by the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, so that even the military officers suspected of malpractices are turned over to that jurisdiction.

Offences of such a nature are disagreeable for the Captains-General to deal with; therefore, they are but too happy to transfer them to the Supreme Court, where, by the means to which I have alluded, the evidence that would convict is somehow or other excluded, is withdrawn or quashed; but at any rate we never have heard of any convictions, or punishment of the accused, and so the Slave Trade goes on and prospers.

The Spanish Government, if they really intend that the Treaties with Great Britain shall be faithfully observed, and are desirous to extirpate the Slave Trade, need be under no apprehensions in adopting the most stringent measures for that purpose; they have force enough at their command to suppress any semblance of dissatisfaction were they to declare slave-trading to be piracy, and deal with it as such in all its branches and ramifications; the measure your Lordship may rest assured will neither endanger their Colony nor alter its tranquillity. I consider the allegation of such motive for not acceding to the request of Her Majesty's Government as a mere pretext to put off the extinction of a barbarous and everywhere else detested Traffic, which they know will other-ways continue to be carried on, and, therefore, I most respectfully submit to your Lordship's better judgment, that the sooner they are pressed to put an end to it the better.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 547.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 9th and 29th of December last,* respecting the proposed transportation of Yucatan Indians to Cuba, I transmit herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the representations of Her Majesty's Government upon this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 548.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 24, 1855.

I HAVE received from Mr. Backhouse a despatch dated the 1st ultimo, containing his Annual Report on the Slave Trade in Cuba for the year 1854, and inclosing, among other documents, a "List of vessels reported to have arrived in 1854 with slaves on the coast of Cuba," by which it would appear, that the number of slaves reported to have been imported during that year amounted to 8,564.

I have caused this list to be carefully examined, and to be compared with your several despatches of last year in which the landing of negroes is mentioned,

* Nos. 535 & 543.

† No. 443.

and taking the lowest calculation which is the result of this comparison, it appears that the number of slaves imported in 1854, amounted to 7,673, to which the usual addition of one-third should be made for unreported landings, and accordingly the total estimate for the past year will be 10,230.

This number though not so large as the estimate of slaves imported into Cuba in 1853, is larger than the number of those imported in any one of the eleven years immediately preceding the year 1853, and it exceeds the average of importations during the last fifteen years by 4,034.

You will make known these circumstances to the Captain-General, and you will state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government feel assured that he will deplore as much as they do such melancholy facts, and will see in them a motive for increased vigilance on the part of the subordinate authorities of Cuba, in order to carry out his intentions, which are those of his Government, and to prevent such a flagrant violation of the Treaty engagements subsisting between the two countries.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 549.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract)

Foreign Office, February 24, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of December, inclosing two copies of a Decree published by General Concha on the 28th of that month, modifying the terms of the General Order issued by his predecessor on the 1st of January, 1854, which provided for the complete liberation of the class of negroes in Cuba which had been up to that time called "emancipados," and were thenceforth to be divided with reference to their ages and length of servitude in the island into two classes, called respectively "libertos" and "emancipados aprendices."

It appears to me that you are borne out in regarding with suspicion the fact that this new Decree reverts to the former designation of "emancipados," which did not in the least correspond with the actual condition of that most unfortunate class of slaves, and I concur with you in fearing that there may be some reason to apprehend that the real and *bonâ fide* emancipation of these Africans may be again indefinitely postponed.

I have accordingly to instruct you to take an opportunity of stating these views to the Captain-General on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and of reminding his Excellency of the contents of the despatch from General Valdes of the 30th of April, 1842, which was communicated officially to Her Majesty's Government, and in which General Valdes promised, that on the completion of five years from that date, all the emancipated negroes were to enjoy perfect freedom. You will also refer General Concha to the assurance given by Count Alcoy to Lord Howden in March 1853, that all the captured slaves in Cuba whose liberty the Spanish Crown bound itself by the Treaty of 1817 to guarantee, should receive their freedom before the end of 1853, and that at the same time those captured negroes to whom immediate liberty was promised by Spain under the XIIIth Article of the Treaty of 1835, should be liberated as soon as they had completed a term of five years, to be reckoned from the date of their last assignment.

No. 550.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 6.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 1, 1855.

SOME instances of discontent on the part of emancipados freed at the end of the year 1853, have lately come under my notice, so that I find the observations which I had the honour of submitting to your Lordship in

my despatch of the 30th December are fully borne out, and that those so-called freed emancipados, complain of the rule to which they are subject in being compelled, as they are, to contract themselves to serve for a prescribed period at a rate of wages much inferior to that which they could obtain if they were not under the obligation to observe the Government Regulations, and to work for such masters as they might agree with at eight dollars a-month for males, and at six dollars a-month for females, a fourth part of which is taken by the Government for the fund of the emancipados, thereby reducing these poor peoples' earnings to the maximum of six dollars and four and a-half dollars a-month for men and women respectively, whilst coloured persons, absolutely free, can easily gain double that amount, and slaves are hired in gangs at nearly three times those rates of pay.

But they have no remedy, and have to submit, or be punished.

I have proposed to them as an alternative, to claim the right of being sent away from the island, but that they are unwilling to do, for reasons which are too obvious to be overcome, as by going away they would have to leave the few friends and acquaintances they have, and go to a strange land where they would know nobody, and be also ignorant of the language and customs as they were when they were first torn from their homes in Africa, and brought to this island.

If anything could be done for this much abused class, it would be a great boon to which they are fully entitled after the long years of endurance they have passed in their probation. I have no doubt they would all be willing to contribute out of their wages to the full extent of what the Government retains, say two dollars a-month from the men, and one dollar and a-half a month from the women for the fund but they ought to be allowed to earn all they can, or even be relieved of part of so enormous a tax as twenty-four dollars and eighteen dollars a-year each to which they are, males and females, now subjected.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 551.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 6.)

(Extract.)

Havana, February 3, 1855.

I DID myself the honour of addressing your Lordship, under date 29th of December, in reference to the despatch which I had received from Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, respecting the Indians who had been made prisoners by the Mexican Government troops in the war of castes which has so long been raging in the Peninsula of Yucatan.

I have since received despatches from Don Pedro Regil y Peon, the British Consular Agent at Merida, of a very important nature, translation of which I have now the honour of transmitting to your Lordship, along with the four inclosures, descriptive of the transaction between the Mexican Government and Colonel Jimenez, the agent employed by Messrs. Goicoria and Brothers, as well as containing the fullest proof that the greatest violence and foul play is used for the purpose of seizing and sending away those poor Indians, to satisfy the cupidity of the parties engaged in this inhuman Traffic, which must produce the greatest atrocities, and the complete devastation of that part of the Mexican territory.

I have also to lay before your Lordship a copy of a correspondence which I have had with his Excellency the Captain General upon this subject; and I regret to be obliged to state to your Lordship, that some 135 of these unfortunate victims have been introduced here, brought by the schooner "*Maria Jacinta*" and brig "*Amita*," from Sizal and Rio Legartos.

Inclosure 1 in No. 551.

The British Consular Agent at Merida to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Merida, December 23, 1854.

IN compliance with the orders that have been communicated to me, I have the honour of addressing myself to you to inform you of what is occurring with respect to the exportation of the natives of this district to the Island of Cuba.

I suppose you are aware that the Mexican Government entered into a contract with the house of Goicoria and Brothers, merchants at the Havana, in order to enable them to take from Yucatan, and as colonists, and under certain restrictions, the Indians that might be taken prisoners in the war which is at present carried on in this country.

His Excellency Mr. Doyle, our Minister in Mexico, forwarded to me a copy of said contract, with instructions to observe closely the operations that might go on with regard to Indians, in virtue of same, and report to you what might occur in relation thereto.

I have, nevertheless, strong motives for suspecting that the copy of the contract which Mr. Doyle sent me, is not correct and exact; for having obtained a copy of the communication which was addressed on this subject by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Government of this Department, I have not found it agree, and certainly to contain some remarkable variations.

For your government I remit you a copy, and as in it reference is constantly made to a contract previously entered into, I send likewise a copy of same.

It having come within my knowledge that a number of Indians who were prisoners in the public prison in this city, were to be embarked for the Island of Cuba, and suspecting, on good foundation, that they were about to go against their evinced inclination, in conformity with my orders, I addressed myself officially to the Governor of the Department for permission to have an interview with them, in order to satisfy myself that they had been contracted with freely and spontaneously, and that no kind of coercion had been exercised over them. This permission was denied, and I was therefore still more confirmed in the idea that those men were about to be taken to the Island of Cuba as slaves, and not as free men, who go of their own will to a foreign country to earn their support by their labour.

My suspicion was truly roused, when I was aware that the Indians who were in the prison, on ascertaining that there were steps being taken to remove them from their country, presented a representation to the Government, a copy of which, legalized by Her Catholic Majesty's Vice-Consul, I inclose to you. It is plainly seen, by its contents, that the unfortunate prisoners are carried against their express will to Cuba, and I harbour the conviction that the authorities of that island, on the simple presentation of that statement, will cause them to be immediately placed in freedom, for the only title that can be alleged against them, and in favour of the house of Goicoria and Brothers, is a contract which never can be perfect and obligatory; for in order to be so, it requires the full consent of the contracting parties, which is not to be found in the present case.

The Spanish laws are sufficiently explicit on this particular, and provide that in all contracts should be taken into consideration "*temor justo en razon constante*."

I do not send you herewith the original documents which I have in my possession, as I consider it highly important in carrying out the philanthropic views of Her Majesty's Government, and as it proves evidently that the free will of the Indians has been violated, and that they, in virtue of same, can have their contracts annulled, I feared lest it might have gone astray. The copy, as well as the others, which I have said I inclose to you, legalised in due form, will, I believe, be sufficient for the ends desired. Nevertheless, if you consider it necessary, I will forward it to you by the first opportunity.

Without any doubt are on board the Mexican schooner "*Maria Jacinta*," the bearer of this, my communication, and are to be disembarked forty-five natives, whose passages have been contracted for at twenty dollars each for fifteen, and at fourteen each for the remaining thirty.

On board the same vessel, Don Gonzalo Goicoria, the principal persons interested in the negotiations for Indians, will embark.

I remit you a copy of the contracts which the Indians have been made to sign, and which, with much difficulty, I have been enabled to obtain.

It is my duty to say to you, for your information, that in conformity with the orders which I have received, I have this day addressed to the chief authority of the department a protest, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, for infringement of the Treaties ratified between our Government and that of Mexico, for the repression and suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, by permitting to be exercised a coercion over those unfortunate Indians who go to be slaves against their will, under a disguised slavery.

Within a few days the Mexican schooner "*Tonta*" is likewise to sail for the Havana, carrying on board a number of Indians, and is to go to embark them at Rio Lagartos.

If I should procure any fresh details concerning this expedition, I shall communicate them to you in due time.

Inclosure 2 in No. 551.

Señor Bonilla to the Governor of Yucatan.

(Translation.)

*Office of the Secretary for the dispatch of
Exterior Affairs.*

Most Excellent Sir,

HIS Serene Highness the General President, taking into consideration the statement which your Excellency directed to me, recommended by an official letter, dated the 5th of May last, in which Colonel Don Manuel Maria Jimenez, actual representative of the house of Messrs. Goicoria and Brothers, merchants of the Havana, solicits, in their name, that they be permitted to extract from this Department the natives who may be made prisoners during the present war which they carry on, in order to take them to the Island of Cuba, in the same manner as those which the same house may freely contract in conformity with the permission that was granted to them by the Supreme Government on the 23rd of January last, his Serene Highness has been pleased to decree favourably under the following conditions:—

1st. Instead of the propositions which Señor Jimenez makes in his application abovementioned, of maintaining 200 men with their officers, to make war on the insurgent Indians, and to give fifteen dollars for each one who might be delivered to him as prisoner, Señor Jimenez shall place 20,000 dollars, in two instalments, in the respective offices of that Department, after the payment of which, shall commence the delivery of the Indian prisoners which is granted to him.

2nd. The Commandant General's office of Yucatan, shall deliver to Señor Jimenez, the half of the prisoners which, from that time, may be in that Department, to whom shall be applicable precisely the same favourable conditions as those which his Serene Highness established in the first grant to the said house of Goicoria and Brothers, on the 23rd of January last, to contract free Indians; considering the prisoners as likewise free, and as such they might be contracted for, so that they would be responsible for the treatment they might receive, the remuneration they might be entitled to for their labour, &c., and especially that they remain in the full enjoyment of the rights of Mexicans, which the 9th Clause of the aforementioned permission establishes.

3rd. At the conclusion of the five years of their contract, they shall be restored to their country by the contractors, as the Superior Government com-

mates to that servitude that of a longer time or any other punishment to which they ought to be condemned, and remaining at the same time preserved the rights of the Treaties relative to the protection which ought to be shown to its Mexican subjects as free men.

4th. It is expressly laid down, that the emigration of the natives of Yucatan is alone for the Island of Cuba, and not for any other of the Antillas.

5th. Likewise it is established, that this concession does not give any privilege to the house of Messieurs Goicoria and Brothers, as the Superior Government of the Nation remains in absolute freedom to make others of the same or similar nature, when, and to whom, it may appear suitable.

By order of his Serene Highness, I communicate it to your Excellency for your knowledge, and that you be attentive to the exact compliance with this resolution in all its parts, reporting on its results in order that the Supreme Government may be aware of what may occur in this matter.

God and liberty.

Mexico, 1854.

BONILLA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 551.

Señor Bonilla to the Governor of Yucatan.

(Translation.)

*Office of the Secretary of State and Management
of Exterior Affairs.*

Most Excellent Sir,

BY the inclosed copy, your Excellency will be put in possession of the application which Don Tito Vecino, Consul of His Majesty the King of Bavaria, in the Island of Cuba, has brought before his Serene Highness the General-President, that, to the house of Goicoria and Brothers, merchants of the Havana, the house which he represents be permitted to contract, in Yucatan, the natives who, freely and voluntarily may wish to go to labour in the said Island of Cuba, on the terms and under the circumstances related in the application. His Serene Highness not finding anything inconvenient in that proposition, and rather being persuaded that such contracts have to be advantageous to the natives of the Department, serving as an efficacious means of awakening in them salutary ideas of order, economy, and love of labour, he has been pleased to decree, in conformity, and that I notify it to your Excellency in order that you may issue your orders to the subordinate authorities in order that they may not put impediments to the contracts that the house making the solicitude may enter into, provided that be observed in them precisely the following dispositions:—

1st. That the contracts be celebrated, without any exception, before a civil authority, which shall receive a declaration from the natives, that no coercion, violence, or fraud, is practised on them, the same authority taking care to investigate, by prudent means, the truth of these circumstances. Should they be minors, their protectors or guardians shall intervene, they swearing that the contracts are beneficial to their orphans.

2nd. That the contracts be, at the utmost, for the term of five years, as a longer duration would be equivalent to a disguised slavery.

3rd. That security be required, from the house contracting, that it will comply scrupulously with the stipulations entered into with the natives, taking particular and active care, that these stipulations be the same as are set forth in the application, or others plainly advantageous to the natives, without consenting to any one that might be prejudicial to them.

4th. That the authorities, before whom the contracts may be drawn out, report on same immediately to his Excellency for his approbation, without which they shall not have any force or validity.

5th. That each of the natives contracted for, obtain a passport from your Excellency to leave that Department and enter the Island of Cuba, as the Mexican Consul will not protect any individual who may be without such a

document, and will make him re-embark for Yucatan at the expense of the contractor.

6th. That your Excellency, and the other authorities, whose duty it may be, take care that the contracted natives be treated as they should be, and that they be shipped commodiously, safely, &c., &c.

7th. As soon as any contract be entered into, your Excellency will send a legalized copy of it to the Consul of the Republic at the Havana, so that he may proceed to act in accordance with the orders which this Ministry communicate him.

8th. That the Mexican Consul have free access to the natives, in order to be informed from themselves relative to good treatment, and the fulfilment of their contracts, and in case of serious neglect of same, the contracts remain by that circumstance annulled, the holders being under the obligation of paying them the return voyage, together with any sum that may be coming to them, and, moreover, what may be calculated for losses and damages.

9th. That in no case shall these natives be considered other than Mexicans, in the enjoyment of all the rights that correspond to them as such according to the Treaties with Spain.

10th. That the contracted natives be at liberty to take with them their wives and children under the condition that each one may stipulate with the contractors, who cannot oblige them to leave them in this Department nor in any other place, nor much less that they be absolutely compromised to labour, jointly with the head of the family, unless they freely and voluntarily enter into agreements to do so. Your Excellency will please to furnish a report to this Ministry of all the contracts which the contracting house may enter into, stating the concurrent circumstances of same, the number of persons contracted, and whatever may be necessary, in order that his Serene Highness may be informed on this interesting business.

God and liberty.

Mexico, January 23, 1854.

I repeat, &c.
(Signed) BONILLA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 551.

Petition.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

RAIMUNDO TUN, Juan Cahuich, Diego Puc, Fernando Chan, Victoriano Chim, Eusebio Hanil, Desiderio Uc, Juan de la Cruz Han, Vicente Tun, José M. Tay, Pascual Té, Eleuterio Tamay, Pascual Tamay, Antonio Xul, Agustín Nahaut, Luciano Tib, Leandro Han, Juan Balbino Mucul, Diego Ché, Pedro Han, José, Martín Chan, Juan Noh, Juan Pio Tus, Lauriano Comul, Victoriano Chuc, Esteban Cab, José M. Jay, José Cenobio Chim, and Andrés Uc, prisoners in the public prison of this city, as persons seized on the enemy's ground, state before your Excellency with the greatest respect, that we have heard said and assured as a certain fact, that supported by a supreme arrangement concerning prisoners of war in this Department, it is intended to ship us and destine us to the slavery of a foreign country. This intelligence has fallen on us with the most bitter grief and profound sorrow; we being decided to place ourselves under the paternal protection of your Excellency, in order to avoid this terrible blow, stating to you that we are not comprehended under the already cited supreme order, for we are not prisoners of war, as we were not taken with arms in our hands, nor do we belong to the ranks of the insurgent Indians. We have been taken in the woods where we were hiding in order to avoid lest in case the troops of the Government should find us they might confound us with the barbarous rebels, and treat us as such, and at the same time in order to avoid their fury, in case they should find us, on account of not belonging to their ranks or participating in their revolutionary ideas. If, on account of the misfortune we have fallen into, by being brought prisoners, we merit to be

removed from our hearths, as our imprisonment is not the consequence of crime but the offspring of the suspicion which we may cause, confident in the rectitude of the Government, we supplicate your Excellency most humbly, that you do not permit us to be carried to a foreign country, but that we be sent to any other part of the Republic, for which place we may be contracted for, for a like sum and with like advantages to the Treasury, for it would be very painful to us to go entirely from our country without crime. Considering to be just and lawful what we have the honour to supplicate from your Excellency, and which we hope to attain from your rectitude and prudence.

Merida, December 14, 1854.

Most Excellent Sir,

At the request of the Petitioners who do not write.

(Signed) IGNO. MENDICURA.

Merida, December 16, 1854.

The anterior petition cannot be attended to, for in accordance with the proofs which have been before me, the petitioners appear to be prisoners of war.

(Signed) CARDENAS.

I certify that the signature that appears to the antecedent document is the same as that which his Excellency the Governor and Commandant-General of this Department uses on all official occasions, and as such deserves all faith and credit.

(Signed) ANTONIO G. GUTIERREZ.

Merida, December 22, 1854.

I certify that this is a faithful and exact copy of the original, which has been presented to me for legalization by the Consular Agent of Her Britannic Majesty in this city, and of the port of Sital.

(Signed) ANTONIO G. GUTIERREZ.

Merida, December 22, 1854.

Inclosure 5 in No. 551.

Contract.

*Agency Office for the Colonization of natives for the Island of Cuba,
in the Department of Yucatan.*

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, Colonel Don Manuel Maria Jimenez, on the one part, as agent in Yucatan for Messrs. Goicoria and Brothers of the Havana, contractors in the speculation for the colonization of Indians from this peninsula, in the Island of Cuba, in conformity with the grant which the Supreme Government made to them on the 23rd of January of the present year; and on the other part, Juan Pio Tus, free Indian of the town of Chancénote, in the magistracy of Tazimin, District of Valladolid, aged eighteen years, have agreed before the competent authority of the same district, to the following declaration to which signs with us, the Señor _____ as Prefect of the said district.

1. I, Juan Pio Tus, declare solemnly, that I have agreed, freely and voluntarily, to pass to the Island of Cuba, under the control of Messrs. Goicoria and Brothers, for the labour in that island to which they may be pleased to dedicate me as a colonist, as well husbandry, domestic, or mechanical, according to the usages of the country, it being allowable to transfer this contract to whatever

other person the said Messrs. Goicoria and Brothers may judge convenient, I remaining bound as though I were with themselves; and being aware of the arrangements for colonization established in the Island of Cuba, which arrangements have been read to me, I am satisfied with all its parts, as likewise with the Decree of my supreme Government.

2. Messrs. Goicoria, Brothers, or the person to whom this contract may be transferred, shall pay as wages to the colonist mentioned in the anterior article, the sum of four dollars monthly, which shall be paid according to the wish of the colonist, either weekly, monthly, or yearly.

3. The colonist shall be well and abundantly nourished with Indian corn, beans, rice, vegetables, and salt meat, or fish, as he may desire, according to the usage of the country.

4. The contractor is under the obligation to give to the colonist the clothes which he may require for his labours, alternating according to the season; that is to say, that for the summer season shall be given to the colonist two complete suits of linen, and in the winter same shall be increased by blankets, or other comfortable clothes, besides two straw hats yearly to protect him from the sun.

5. Medical assistance, shall be at the cost of the contractor, in whatever description of sickness which the colonist may have, provided said sickness be not caused by the colonist himself, in such case he will deduct from his salary, at the rate of a portion monthly till the total liquidation of the cost of the cure.

6. In every case, in which the sickness which may fall on the colonist be not occasioned by his own fault, nothing shall be deducted from his salary, but if otherwise, shall be deducted from his salary, the days of his sickness which may exceed four, at the rate of the wages he may gain.

7. The colonist is obliged to labour daily fourteen hours in the twenty-four, distributed according to the will of the contractor, and at the labour he may destine them to.

Should the colonist be of the female sex, and should she become pregnant, in such are to be allowed to her seventy days before her confinement, in order that her situation may not trouble her; and after her confinement, are to be granted to her forty days more, in order to restore her nature, and the necessary moments for the suckling of her offspring, without anything being deducted from her salary during the two mentioned periods, not considering her exempt from the light labour which her state may admit of.

8. The colonist is obliged to submit himself to the order and discipline of the farm, workshop, or establishment, where he may be contracted.

9. The contractor is under the obligation of treating the colonist with all humanity and affability, he on his part corresponding by his good disposition and assiduity to labour.

10. In case the colonists be married and have children, they cannot be separated from their wives and children, who still remain in the farms or places to which the contractors may destine them, subjecting themselves to their individual contracts. Remarking that said children being of from twelve to fifteen years of age, shall enjoy a salary of three dollars monthly, and under twelve shall not enjoy any.

11. I (the name of the person) am satisfied with the stipulated salary, although I know and am aware that the salary which free labourers and slaves earn in the Island of Cuba is much larger, for I consider this difference recompensed by the other advantages which my employer is to proportion to me, and they are those expressed in this contract.

12. The term of the contract will last for five years, from the date of the arrival of the colonist in the Island of Cuba, the voluntary return of the colonist to his country being at the cost of the contractor, whose obligation shall cease on the refusal of the latter.

(Signed)

MANUEL MARIA JIMENEZ.

Inclosure 6 in No. 551.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Excellency a copy of an official letter and its four inclosures which I received on the 7th instant from Don Pedro de Regil y Peon, dated from Merida in Yucatan the 23rd ultimo.

Owing to the arrival of a number of the Indian prisoners by the same vessel which brought me Don Regil y Peon's despatch, I was anxious that your Excellency should be informed without delay as to the circumstances under which those poor Indians had been brought here, and I therefore on the 8th instant handed to the General Secretary of this Government the originals of the papers which I have now the honour of laying before your Excellency, and which prove that the Mexican Government at the instance of Messrs. Goicoria Brothers, and others have constituted, or have attempted to constitute, the island under your Excellency's government a penal settlement, by having disposed of the Indians made prisoners in the war of castes which is going on and which has been raging for some time in the Peninsula of Yucatan.

In answer to a communication which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency upon this subject, under date the 19th ultimo, I had the satisfaction of receiving an assurance that orders had been given to Her Catholic Majesty's Consul, that he should assure himself, in the event of Yucatan colonists being sent here from thence, that they come of their own free will.

At the time the Indian prisoners which have arrived on the 7th instant, on board the Mexican vessel the "*Maria Jacinta*" sailed from Yucatan, your Excellency's orders could not have been received by the said Consul, who was aware by the protest which was made by those unfortunate people, that not only they did not come of their own free will, but that they were compelled to do so, the Mexican authorities in Yucatan falsely calling them prisoners who had been taken with arms in their hands, and I am therefore to consider, that the Consul of Her Catholic Majesty, had anticipated the humanity of your Excellency's instructions, as he did not certify the passports which were brought by the Indians upon that occasion.

I understand that upwards of a hundred more of these poor people are expected soon to arrive in a vessel called the "*Santa Ana*" or the "*Anita*," who, like those already arrived, have been forced to embark as colonists, but who are in reality nothing of the kind, but the victims of a war of extermination which has been fomented by the moneys of Messieurs Goicoria and others for their enrichment, and which if permitted must end in the extermination of the Indians from the whole of the Province of Yucatan.

To such atrocities, the permitting of those helpless beings to be introduced here under the pretence of their being colonists, would most assuredly give rise in Yucatan, that every Indian town and village would be devastated, and the miserable inhabitants be made the slaves of the contractors who pretend to bring them here as willing labourers.

I have learnt that it has been tried to pass upon your Excellency, that the Indians who arrived by the "*Maria Jacinta*" having been, one by one, asked in the presence of the Mexican Consul, through the medium of an interpreter, whether they had contracted with Messieurs Goicoria and Company, of their own free will, that they had all said, that they had done so; but your Excellency, their protest is at variance with such a statement, and their interrogation being made as it was, for the purpose of getting these victims of avarice to answer so as that it might induce your Excellency to admit them as free colonists, not the slightest merit ought to attach to the report which I understand has been made thereupon to your Excellency, and I feel convinced that this Traffic will be put an end to by the instructions given

by your Excellency to the Consular authorities of Her Catholic Majesty in Yucatan, and the interposition of your Excellency's denial to admit such forced colonists into the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 7 in No. 551.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, January 16, 1855.

I HAVE in my possession your Honour's communication of the 15th of this month, with the documents in copy which accompanied it; and as soon as I have collected all the data and antecedents necessary, I shall reply to your Honour what I deem is proper to the case.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Inclosure 8 in No. 551.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, January 19, 1855.

I HAVE received along with your Honour's official letter of the 15th instant, that which, with its inclosures has been addressed to you from Merida, in Yucatan, by Don Pedro Regil y Peon with reference to the Indians, contracted for by Messrs. Goicoria and Co., to come to this island under the class of colonists.

I had previously stated to you, that to prevent fraud which you had denounced, I had made a convenient communication to Her Catholic Majesty's Consul in Merida, that he should assure himself that the colonists came of their own freewill and accord; and besides, I gave instructions opportunely to the Brigadier Political Governor of this city, that previous to allowing their disembarkation, he should be satisfied that they had not been brought forcibly: and as the result of this official investigation which was gone into, with those who arrived by the "*Maria Jacinta*," has not produced any proof of coercion, but on the contrary, that interrogated as they were, they gave visible signs of joy, and explained that they had come willingly, and with all their hearts. Your Honour will know that there does not exist any motive whatever for prohibiting their introduction in this case.

It remains for me to state to your Honour, that all possible measures having been taken for preventing underhand dealings, or foul play, either in Yucatan or in this island, the evils your honour indicates in your communication referred to, are not to be apprehended, and on the other hand, it is not in the power of this Government to derogate the ordinance approved by Her Majesty, in which the introduction of colonists is permitted for the term of two years.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 552.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 6.)

(Extract.)

Havana, February 12, 1855.

THE despatch from Mr. Doyle* which I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship, was sent to me under flying seal. I have the honour of acquainting your Lordship that I have received a communication from Don Regil y Peon, the British Consular Agent at Merida, dated the 1st instant, in

which is transcribed a despatch which he had addressed to Mr. Doyle to the following effect :—

“ I have the pleasure of stating to your Excellency, that I know, in an authentic manner, that the Supreme Government has communicated to the principal authority of this Department an order to supersede the effects of the contract entered into with Colonel Jimenez. And at the same time I have been told that orders have been given to return to said Jimenez, or to the representative of the house of Goicoria and Brothers of Havana, the sums which, on account of said contract, they had paid into the Treasury of this Department. I can assure your Excellency that these sums, which amount to 17,000 dollars, have not been returned, nor is it probable that they will be, because the scarcity and misery is so great, and the revenue so limited, that there is not a sufficiency to cover the expenses and outlay indispensable for the war with the Indians.

“ I do not think, however, that even the annulling of the Government's contract with Jimenez would put a stop to the forcible extraction of the Indians to the Island of Cuba, as the concession made, on the 23rd of January, 1854, to Don Tito Vecino remains in force, and although by that it is stipulated, that only those natives who voluntarily contract are to be taken, that clause, owing to the well-known weak character of the Indians, and the coercion produced by terror and other unworthy means which they may exercise over them, must be reputed as completely illusory.

“ I know, in the most positive manner, that subsequent to the annulling of the concession for the extraction of prisoners, the agents of Goicoria have ordered 700 contracts to be printed. For what else can this be, than that they have well-founded hopes of carrying on their nefarious business ?

“ The Government of this Department, in virtue of the orders of the Supreme Government of the Republic, will not authorize the abuses which are committed, but I am almost certain that the subaltern authorities will lend themselves as instruments to the insinuations and wishes of the contractors.

“ Such is the attachment of the Indians to their native land, that neither the wish to better their fortunes, nor the greatest advantages which could be offered them, would be enough to make them leave it willingly. We daily see that from Vera Cruz, Isla de Carmen, Tabasco, and other places in the Republic, offers are made to them as good, and more advantageous than those of Goicoria, and notwithstanding they cannot succeed in inducing them to go and work in other places.

“ It is well known that if the agents of said house have succeeded in taking some of the natives from this Department, there are powerful reasons for believing that some wicked influence over their will has been used, and that they have not been able to exercise their necessary liberty.

“ The evils which may result from this are irremediable, and I see nothing that will put a stop to it, but the obtaining from the Mexican Government an order prohibiting in toto the extraction of Indians forth of the Republic, or to place some of Her Majesty's vessels around Yucatan to examine vessels conveying Indians, and ascertain from them, when they are beyond improper influence, whether they are going to Cuba of their own free will.

“ With the prisoners embarked on board the ‘*Maria Jacinta*’ and ‘*Anita*,’ the formalities directed by the Supreme Government Minister for Foreign Affairs were not observed as he assured your Excellency. Those prisoners were neither tried nor condemned, nor was any choice left them of being punished in their own country according to their offences, or their being shipped off to the Island of Cuba.

“ The contracts which appear to be signed by them were subscribed by a clerk of the house of Goicoria, without consulting the will of the Indians, who were at Sizal, a town distant twelve leagues from this capital, where they had been publicly conveyed, guarded, and bound as prisoners.

“ If, as it is made to appear by their contracts, they were going of their own free will, why use such precautions, applicable only to persons who were made to obey the laws of the stronger ?

“ Before concluding (says Don Regil y Peon, in his despatch now before me,) I must state to you, that it will be advisable to watch the fishing-sloops of Don Francisco Marti y Torrens which come to fish on the coast of Yucatan, as I have data for believing that the illegal and odious Traffic of Indians is carried

on by means of said vessels, which, with so much facility and frequency visit the coast of this peninsula.”

I shall make all convenient use of the important information given by Don Regil y Peon, and I shall not fail to report upon this subject to your Lordship from time to time.

No. 553.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 9, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo, reporting the arrival at Havana of 135 Indian prisoners, natives of Yucatan, whose services as labourers have been sold by the Mexican Government to the house of Goicoria and Co. of Havana; and I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps which you have taken with regard to this affair.

No. 554.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

(Extract.)

Havana, February 22, 1855.

BY Her Majesty's steamer "Buzzard" which arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz and Sital, I received a despatch from Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister at Mexico, dated the 7th instant, accompanying, under flying seal, a despatch of the same date,* with its inclosures, which he addressed to your Lordship upon the subject of the abstraction of Indians from Yucatan, which has been going on for some time past under contracts which represent, that those unfortunate people have come here of their own free will and accord, whereas, it is but too true, that they have been frightened from their homes, seized as prisoners of war and compelled to embark under the condition of serving Goicoria, or others here in Cuba, for a period of five years, if good faith is observed towards them, but which more probably will be a continuous state of servitude for the remainder of their lives.

It appears that the Mexican Government has withdrawn the privileges granted to Messrs. Tangroniz and Goicoria and Co. as regards their right acquired thereby over the prisoners, but the contract entered into with Don Tito Vecino for the latter house, permitting them to engage Indians as free colonists to come to this island, still is allowed to subsist and it is under the pretence of such contracts as free colonists, that these poor people are now to be brought away from Yucatan, the truth being, that they are forced to contract themselves and are sent from the interior to the coast in gangs tied together, as convicts are usually transmitted from the capital, or from any other part of Mexico to another, and besides accompanied by a guard to see them embarked.

Commander Dobbie informs me that there is no doubt the 80 Indians which were at Rio Lagartos and who are to be sent here by the Mexican brig "Yucateco," are of the same description, and the same unfair means have been used to force them to embark. The contracts cannot be looked upon as anything else than a cloak to the infamous transaction which is to be made use of upon the arrival of these unhappy people at this scene of their future miseries, as no doubt a similar farce will be gone through with them as was carried on with those already arrived, and they will all be made to answer through Messrs. Goicoria's interpreter, that they are delighted to have come, and most anxious to fulfil their engagements.

I deemed it my duty to call upon the Mexican Consul, which I did this morning, and I had a long conference with him upon the subject of this inhuman Traffic; I regret to state to your Lordship that the result was by no means satisfactory. I mentioned to him the objectionable circumstance of his

having employed Messrs. Goicoria's interpreter of the Maya language upon the recent occasion; but he stated that he had a check upon him by a servant of his own who was also present and who assured him, that the other had interpreted faithfully.

Under these circumstances, I am apprehensive that the same game is to be played over again, in order to obtain the same result upon the arrival of the "Yucateco." I therefore notified M. Carballo of my intention to apply to his Excellency the Captain-General for leave to have the Indians, expected in future, interrogated by interpreters who could in no ways be interested in the matter, but that these would be entirely independent of those he might think proper to employ for the Mexican Consulate.

No. 555.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd ultimo respecting the Yucatan Indians who have been recently introduced into Cuba under the name of free labourers, but who, you state, there is every reason to believe, have been seized and removed from their native country against their will; and I have in reply to express to you my approval of your proceedings in this matter.

Her Majesty's Government do not allow themselves to doubt, that when the Captain-General has ascertained the real character of these transactions, he will put an end to them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Porto Rico*.

No. 556.

Consul Lindegren to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

(Extract.)

San Juan, Porto Rico, March 9, 1854.

I HAVE the pleasure to inform your Lordship, that I have just received a note from his Excellency the Captain-General of Porto Rico, referring to his letter of the 22nd October last, in which he promised to let me know as soon as he had come to any determination relative to the exportation of slaves from hence to Cuba, against which I had made a remonstrance, and sending me a copy of the Government "Gazette" published this day, in which his Excellency has issued an order prohibiting the further exportation of slaves from the island, except under the circumstances and regulations pointed out therein; this will quite put a stop to the Traffic which has lately been carried on with them, and as few are likely to be taken away in the manner permitted, the exportation may be considered to be at an end, which I am sure that your Lordship will be glad to hear. The following is a translation of the different Articles in the order:

Article I. The exportation of slaves from this island is prohibited, unless the Royal permission is obtained for it; those who in future may wish to export any one or more of them must apply to Her Majesty through me, soliciting the Royal permission for this purpose.

II. The following are excepted from the preceding order; first, those condemned by the tribunals; secondly, those belonging to individuals who may leave the island for the purpose of fixing their residence either in Cuba, or in any other part of the Spanish dominions, or employés proceeding there who can only take away those attached to their attendance alone, and on no account those who are engaged in agriculture.

III. In order that the persons mentioned in the preceding Article may carry this into effect, the requisite permission from the head Government must be obtained, the petition of the person who solicits it being accompanied by a certificate from the Syndic of the district in which he resides, proving that there has not been any objection on the part of the slaves founded on the rights granted them by the laws.

IV. The orders contained in the preceding Articles shall commence to take effect from the 1st of April next, but those who want to export slaves until that day, must equally produce the certificate of the Syndic spoken of in the last Article.

This order is signed by the Governor, dated at Porto Rico the 7th of March, 1854, and addressed to the Departmental Commandants, the Corregidores and the Mayors of the different districts of the island.

No. 557.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 6, 1854,

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th ultimo, inclosing a copy of the order issued by the Captain-General of Porto Rico on the 7th of March, 1854, prohibiting the further exportation of slaves from that island to Cuba. And I have to instruct you to state to the Captain-General of Porto Rico, that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with great satisfaction that his Excellency has issued this prohibition.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 558.

Consul Lindegren to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, May 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 6th ultimo, desiring me to state to the Governor of Porto Rico that Her Britannic Majesty's Government has learnt with great satisfaction that his Excellency had issued an order prohibiting the further exportation of slaves to Cuba, which I have accordingly communicated to his Excellency; and there is no doubt of his being firm in his intentions in this respect from a circumstance which has since occurred, for the time named for this order taking effect being the 1st of April, a few days previously a small estate was offered for sale, and some speculators purchased it with the intention of sending all the slaves, 56 in number, to Cuba, for sale there. When I heard of this, and that they had engaged a vessel to take them, I went to the Governor, and spoke to him about it, and told him that the slaves were very anxious not to go, when he said that he would see to it, though the time for allowing the shipment had not expired. Hearing afterwards that it was intended to smuggle them off in the night, as only two days remained before the prohibition would be in force, I went again to his Excellency, when he told me that I might feel easy, as the vessel in question had cleared out, and that they should not go by her. I afterwards went to the Syndic or Protector of Slaves, and was glad to find that he was against the shipment, and had communicated with the Governor to prevent it; the result is, that the slaves have not been shipped, and the whole of them have been disposed of in another part of this island.

I take this opportunity of mentioning to your Lordship, that some parties here have been anxious for some time to import a cargo of slaves from the coast of Africa, and there is a vessel here fit for the purpose, whose movements I have been watching, but I am glad to hear from good authority that the Governor has refused positively to allow them to bring in any slaves, and as it is not possible to land them here without its being known, the speculation must be given up.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

No. 559.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th of May, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the measures therein reported, which you took in order to frustrate an intended exportation of 56 slaves from Porto Rico to Cuba.

Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction that the Governor of Porto Rico used his authority to prevent the shipment in question, and that his Excellency has also refused to permit certain parties in that island to undertake an importation of slaves from the coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, October 13, 1854.

I AM sorry to have to address your Lordship upon an affair in which I hoped to succeed without troubling your Lordship, but as I now see that I have no chance of accomplishing this myself, I am induced to bring the case under your Lordship's consideration.

Early in last year, a poor woman of colour presented herself before me, to beg my assistance in procuring the freedom of herself and children. She said that her name was Mary Gordon, and represented that she was a free British subject, belonging to the Island of St. Kitts, and had been, many years ago, kidnapped, whilst bathing at Sandy Point, in that island, and brought to San Juan and sold to a person at Caguas, a town in the interior of the island; she could not tell how many years ago, but by documents since produced, it must have been as far back as 1822. She afterwards remained with the same master, until being ill-used by him, she appealed to General de la Pezuela, the Governor at that time, who happened to be there in 1851, and there appearing to be an irregularity in the bill of sale, he ordered her to be put in deposit, and her case to be examined into. A suit was then commenced in her behalf against her master; but after sundry proceedings had taken place, little having been done in it latterly, she came to me to ask my assistance. From the very particular account she gave of herself, and speaking English so well after so long an absence, I felt myself bound to render her all the assistance I could, and stating her case to the Governor, I claimed the freedom of herself as well as of her children, consisting of 3 daughters, 1 son, and 2 grandchildren, all of whom were equally entitled to their liberty. To this the Governor answered, that a suit was pending between her and her master, before the judge at Caguas, and that it was intended to send her to St. Thomas, to see whether she could be identified with the bill of sale which the person who sold her, produced to the present owner as having purchased her there; but when sent, she could not be identified with it. I wrote also to St. Thomas, as this bill of sale had been sent up there, to get a copy of it, and to see the protocol or original document which ought to have been in the archives there, to compare it with the bill of sale; but the protocol was certified by the Judge to be lost. I then went to the expense of getting a copy of the bill of sale and a translation of it in the English and Spanish language certified by the Spanish Consul, and took the opinion of a clever Danish Advocate as to its validity, and he declared that it was of no value. I wrote, also, to the Governor of St. Kitts, stating the woman's case, and begging his Excellency to learn what he could about her; and in the answer which I received, her story as to her having been kidnapped was fully confirmed, the fact having been notorious at Sandy Point, at the time, and persons there remembered her as a girl, and by her name of Mary Gordon. A copy of the letter, and evidence from St. Kitts, and the opinion of the lawyer at St. Thomas, I forwarded to the Governor, who wrote me that he would forward them to the Judge at Caguas. Desirous, also, of proving her baptism, to show that she had been free, I wrote again to the Governor of St. Kitts, who made inquiries, but the clergyman could not trace any Mary Gordon, though he found several Marys in the register, and I have not since been able to get this information, which the owner strongly called for, knowing, probably, the difficulty of obtaining it at this long distance of time. The suit appears to have been proceeded upon again more actively after I appealed to the Governor, and, contrary to the full expectation of the Advocate of the slave, who is called

here, Maria del Carmen, judgment was given in favour of the master, with leave to appeal to the Royal Audiencia.

I had not then seen any of the proceedings, but when they were sent up here, I saw them, and it appeared to me that the case had been very badly managed, both from want of knowledge on the part of the Syndic as to her real position, and the stupidity of the woman in the answers she gave herself, and that it required a good advocate to defend her case before the Court of Audiencia. In a case of this kind, the suit is carried on without expense on the part of the slave, therefore, no advocate of note would undertake it on her side, and a leading one, applied to by the Syndic, refused; feeling, therefore, that it was a case which ought to be properly defended, and there not being time to address your Lordship on the subject, I felt so much interested in it that I agreed to give an able lawyer eighty dollars to draw up her case, which he did, and advocated it extremely well; but I regret to say without success, as the Royal Audiencia decided that she was to be returned to her owner until she could bring forward better proofs to establish her freedom; had it been decided in her favour, the owner would have had to pay all the costs of the suit which with the loss of the slaves would have amounted to several thousand dollars.

Throughout this case it has appeared to me very clearly that they are extremely apprehensive that if this woman should obtain her liberty, many other cases might be brought forward of a similar nature, by slaves who have been carried off in the same way from the English Islands, and that there have been many nefarious transactions of this nature carried on some years ago, there can be no doubt, and the advocate for the owner laid great stress upon the probability of such claims in the course of the proceedings; and although the account she gives of herself, corroborated by the evidence from St. Kitts, her perfect knowledge of various persons at that time residing in that part of the island, and her knowledge of the English language, are sufficient proofs to satisfy an unbiassed person of the justice of her claim; here, where public interest is concerned, it is viewed in a different light; and I am certain, that nothing but the most positive proof of the origin, baptism, and original freedom of a slave would induce the courts to decide in his or her favour, through fear that a decision of this kind might subvert the whole slavery system of the island. Finding that the Audiencia had given this sentence, as I had not appeared personally since my first application, and the transmission of the evidence which I had procured in her favour, I, in my position as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, disclaiming any part in the proceedings brought in the courts of law on behalf of Maria del Carmen, forwarded to his Excellency the Governor, copy of the receipt given by Francisco Monge for the purchase-money of her, an English subject, which I did not know to be in existence until the papers were all sent up to this place for appeal to the Audiencia, and forwarded statements upon which I founded my claim for her freedom, to which, after some time, I only received a short note stating that his Excellency had referred my letter to the Royal Audiencia, and on the 9th instant I received a letter from his Excellency stating that the Royal Audiencia had confirmed the sentence already given, and that the woman, who has for about eighteen months taken shelter in my house, must be returned to her master until she can produce better proofs for her freedom.

In this letter, the Governor has given no answer to any of my statements respecting this woman, and I have accordingly written his Excellency, expressing my regret at his not taking any notice of them, and that I have, consequently, no alternative but to send on the case for the consideration of Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

I have the honour to send, herewith, copies of the correspondence and the other documents relative to this affair, and to avoid giving your Lordship unnecessary trouble, I have accompanied them with a list giving the purport of the contents of each.

I showed the substance of this case to Captain Forbes, of Her Majesty's ship "*Calypso*," who interested himself in it much, and at his request I sent the particulars to his Excellency the Governor of the Leeward Islands, who also felt the hardship of the case: but trusted that the Governor of St. Kitts would do all he could to procure information for me, having written to him upon the subject.

I am extremely sorry to be under the necessity of troubling your Lordship

with this affair, feeling the little power I have myself in obtaining a favourable result, your Lordship, however, will be able to judge, from what I have stated, whether anything or what can be done in it; and I trust that your Lordship will feel yourself justified in interfering to obtain the liberty of this woman and her children, in the success of which, I confess that I feel much interested, and begging your Lordship's excuse for troubling you with this long detail,

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Captain-General of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, February 8, 1853.

I TAKE the liberty of applying to your Excellency to request your assistance on the following subject. On Saturday last, a woman of colour came to me as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, stating that she belonged to the English Island of St. Kitts, from which she had been kidnapped by Don Francisco Monge, the captain of a vessel belonging to Caracas, upwards of forty years ago, and sold here as a slave. She stated, that she had been bathing at Sandy Point, in that island with another girl, when she was carried off by the captain of this vessel, the other girl having escaped, and was brought to San Juan, where she was concealed, and afterwards dressed in boys' clothes, and carried off to Caguas, where the captain sold her to Don Antonio Guadelupe Colon, of that place, who purchased her, although she told him at the time that she was a free girl, and that the captain had no right to sell her. She remained with him during this long period until his Excellency Don Juan de la Pezuela, the late Captain-General came to Caguas, when having been treated ill by her master, she went to his Excellency with her arms bloody from the beating which she had received, and complained against her master, stating at the same time, that she was a free woman, and that her master had no bill of sale (*escritura*) for her; that her name had been Maria Gordon, but that she had been called Maria del Carmen, though she had never been christened, which his Excellency ascertained to be true by reference to the parish registers. He sent also for her master, whom he scolded, and asked him what he meant by treating a free woman in this manner, and finally he placed her case in the hands of the *alcalde*, and a lawyer at Caguas, named Estevan Calderon, and so much did his Excellency commiserate her, that he gave her two dollars, and Madame de la Pezuela two dollars also. She never returned afterwards to her master, but remained at first in the house of an acquaintance, where she earned her living in the best way she could, until about the time of the *Fiestas Reales*, she went to live with Don Estevan Calderon, under whose care she had been placed by the Captain-General. She has remained with him ever since; and has been well treated, and as she states, he has been suing her master, and has embargoed his house to make him give up two of her children whom he kept as slaves; but time passing away, and anxious for the recovery of these as well as two other children, whom her master had sold as slaves, she determined upon coming up to the capital, to apply to your Excellency, but upon arrival, finding that there was an English Consul here, she thought it best to request my assistance in laying her case before your Excellency, which I now take the liberty of doing, requesting that your Excellency will have the goodness to give directions that she and her family may be delivered up to me, that I may send them by the British steamer to St. Kitts.

It appears by this woman's statement, that she has had several children here; some of them are dead, but she has four living, three girls and a boy: the eldest, Gertrude, is a slave to her master, Antonio Guadelupe Colon, and has two small children called Clemencia and Genaro. The second, Margarita, has been sold to Don Miguel Saron, of the *Corneo* at Caguas, and has one child called Maria Ignacia; the third, Juana Maria has been sold to Don Juan Plu, at Rio Pedras. The son, whose name is Juan de la Cruz, is about fourteen or fifteen years of age, and is living as a slave with her master, Don Antonio Guadelupe Colon, all of whom, the mother being free, are equally entitled to

their freedom, and that she is correct in what she states about herself, I have no doubt from the particular account she gives of her family, from speaking English, and the master having no regular bill of sale, which, had he been possessed of, he would have reclaimed her, and his Excellency the late Governor having an opportunity of making inquiries upon the spot, considered her as free, or he would not have interfered as he did in her favour; there is, besides, an old person residing here, who, having lived several years at St. Kitts', where he he has relations, has told me that he recognized having seen her as quite a young girl at Sandy Point, although so many years have elapsed.

I lately received from the Department of Foreign Affairs in England, sundry official documents, among which I found that it had been stated to the Colonial Office by the Governor of the Leeward Islands, that several persons belonging to the Virgin Islands were unjustly detained in slavery at this Island; and the British Minister at Madrid represented this to the Spanish Government by desire of Viscount Palmerston, requesting that in such cases they might be released; and the Count de Miraflores, then Minister of state, informed his Excellency, in answer, under that day's date, 30th January, 1852, that he had written to the Governor of Porto Rico, desiring that any such might be released.

There is not, however, any necessity for adverting to this as a sanction for the release of this family, as I feel sure that your Excellency's kind heart and feelings of humanity will induce you to release these poor people from slavery, to which they ought not to be subject without any other suggestion; and I beg to refer to your Excellency's consideration, whether the poor woman ought not to receive an indemnification from her master, for a service of forty years, knowing at the time that he purchased her, that he was doing an illegal act in purchasing a free girl, without any regular bill of sale. Begging to recommend this case to your Excellency's kind attention,

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Governor of St. Christopher.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, February 10, 1853.

I TAKE the liberty of addressing your Excellency in consequence of an application which has been made me by a negro woman, who states that she is a native of St. Kitts, from whence she was kidnapped by Don Francisco Monge, captain of a Caracas vessel, whilst bathing at Sandy Point with another girl of the name of Betsy, who escaped, and having been brought here, was taken to Caguas, a town eight leagues from this, and sold as a slave, although she apprised the purchaser at the time that she was a free girl. Her name is Mary Gordon, and the daughter of Dover and Mary Gordon, then living at Sandy Point. Her mother, she says, was a free woman, and had two other children, one of whom named Mary also, and the other Betsy. Her godfather and god-mother were Anthony Jave (probably Jarvis, as the name she quotes does not appear to be English) and Betsy Tanial, most of these, however, must be dead, for this must have occurred upwards of forty years ago, though I cannot say how long, as she has no trace as to time, except the notch she made upon a stick as each year elapsed, and there are forty-two notches upon it; some persons must, however, have a recollection of such an occurrence taking place, as well as of her, as she must then have been ten or eleven years old, and I should be much obliged if your Excellency would be so good as to trace out as early as convenient what you may be able to ascertain respecting her, and let me know the result, as I have made an application to the Captain-General for the release from slavery of herself, as well as a family which she has here, but have no grounds to go upon beyond her own statement, which is so clear in its particulars, that together with her knowledge of the English language, which she has not forgotten although she has been living here forty years with persons speaking only Spanish, that I have no doubt myself as to what she states. An old person also residing here of the name of Bladwell, who lived at St. Kitts' for

several years, and says that he has relations there, tells me that he recognized her, although so many years have since elapsed, as having seen her when a girl at Sandy Point; but he does not know whether she was a slave or free; it will, nevertheless, be necessary to bring forward some more certain proofs for the Governor's satisfaction, to enable him to give and enforce the necessary orders for their release, which can only be done by information from your Excellency, and you will, I am sure, be equally desirous with myself to obtain the freedom of this poor woman and her family, of which they are so illegally deprived.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Governor of St. Christopher.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, March 25, 1853.

I HAD the honour to address your Excellency on the 10th February last relative to a black woman here, who says that her name is Mary Gordon, and that she was born at Sandy Point, St. Kitts, of free parents, from whence she was kidnapped many years ago by the master of a Caracas vessel, and sold as a slave in this island, and I was in hopes that I might have received an answer from your Excellency by the last steamer, relative to my inquiries about her. I am afraid, however, the length of time which has elapsed, and the vague accounts which she gave as to the time when this took place, that your Excellency has been unable to trace anything about her; if this has been the case, it may perhaps assist your Excellency in prosecuting your inquiries by being informed that I have reason to believe that this must have occurred about the year 1822, as from the inquiries made by the Governor, a bill of sale, which the owner has produced as that which he received with her, is dated in that year; but there is an appearance of irregularity in it which the Governor is anxiously investigating, this, however, is ten years later than the woman, who appears to know little about time, had stated from memory, and bringing the period when she was kidnapped so much nearer, there may be persons who may have some recollections of her, and it seems more to correspond with the appearance of her age, as she does not look to be more than between forty and forty-five years old.

I am sorry to be thus troublesome to your Excellency, but it would be so desirable that the poor woman and her family should be released from slavery, as I have no doubt from her statements that she is a native of St. Kitts', that I am anxious to do all I can to accomplish it, and I shall be glad to hear from your Excellency the success you have met with in your inquiries as soon as convenient.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 560.

Mr. Pickwood to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

St. Christopher, March 28, 1853.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th of February, and I have now the honour to inclose the information and declaration of Frances Christopher and Ann Bennett, now residing in the town of Sandy Point, who appear to have been personally acquainted with Mary Gordon.

I am also instructed to inclose a certificate from Lieutenant Brockman, Fort Adjutant, in the Garrison of Brimstone, Royal Marines, of the year in which Her Majesty's Regiment of Buffs were stationed there, a fact referred to in the information of Frances Christopher.

You will be pleased to bear in mind that both the parties who have given

their testimony in this matter very possibly were known by other names previous to their emancipation.

I have only to add, that the circumstance to which these documents refer is very well remembered in the district in which they occurred; but owing to the lapse of time, no more direct evidence can be supplied in reference to it.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWIN PICKWOOD.

P.S.—It would appear from Lieutenant Brockman's certificate, that the Buffs, under Colonel Blunt, returned to St. Kitts' in 1801, and it is a matter of fact, that in those days our troops remained in the West Indies for ten years and upwards.

April 5, 1853.

P.S.—Since the completion of the inclosed certificates, your letter of the 29th ultimo has come to hand.

I am very much inclined to believe that the first statement (with reference to date) of Mary Gordon is the correct one.

It must be recollected that negroes have no correct idea of the computation of time, and from the number of persons who have a traditional knowledge of this transaction, I can entertain no reasonable doubt but that Mary Gordon's statement is essentially correct.

Inclosure 5 in No. 560.

Certificate.

By his Excellency Edward Hay Drummond Hay Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor of the Leeward Islands, and Governor of the Islands of St. Christopher and Anguilla, Chancellor, Vice Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c.

THESE are to certify that Edwin Pickwood, Esquire, is Superintendent of Police, and a Justice of the Peace in this colony. That Lieutenant Brockman of Her Majesty's regiment, is Fort Adjutant, and that the names of those officers, appended to the documents hereunto annexed, are their proper sign manual.

Witness my hand and seal at arms, at Government House, this 28th day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

(Signed)

E. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Depositions.

The information of Ann Bennett, of the parish of St. Ann, Sandy Point, in the island aforesaid; taken this twenty-fourth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, before the undersigned, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said island—who saith, "I was a slave on Sir Gillies Payne's estate, close to the town of Sandy Point. I was a playmate of Mary Gordon's, who resided in the town of Sandy Point, a free girl, the daughter of Dover and Mary Gordon. I remember going to 'Pump Bay' one Sunday morning, many years ago, in consequence of a report, that Mary Gordon had been drowned, whilst bathing with another girl. I found plenty of people on the beach; some of the men went into the water to search for the body, on finding her clothes on the beach. There was a foreign vessel in the roadstead, that was loading with oranges, having landed a cargo of salt provisions; I think the vessel sailed that night. The girl that was bathing with Mary Gordon ran away, and it was not until two days after the vessel had left, that this girl confessed, that some of the boat's crew, in one of the trips from the vessel to the shore, had seized Mary Gordon in the water, and had also made an attempt upon her, but

that she escaped. The dread of being taken herself, she said, had prevented her from mentioning it before the vessel quitted. I do not know my age exactly, but I must be above fifty years old. When this happened, I was a young girl not fourteen years of age."

(Signed) ANN ^{her} ~~X~~ BENNETT.
mark.

The information of Frances Christopher, of the parish of St. Ann, Sandy Point, in the island aforesaid—who saith, "I was a slave belonging to Bourk's estate in this parish. I do not know my age; but when the regiment of Buffs, in Colonel Blunt's time, were on the garrison of Brimstone Hill, Mary Gordon and myself, who was too young to be called upon to work, used to go upon the garrison together. She was a free girl, her mother being left free at the death of her master William Gordon. Shs was the daughter of Dover Gordon, and her mother went by the name of 'Present.' After the sale of the property on which Mary Gordon lived, near Bourk's estate, her family and herself removed into the town of Sandy Point. I was soon after taken into the field to work and lost sight of Mary Gordon."

(Signed) FRANCES ^{her} ~~X~~ CHRISTOPHER.
mark.

The above informations taken before me the day and year first above-mentioned, at Sandy Point.

(Signed) EDWIN PICKWOOD,
Superintendent of Police, and Justice of the Peace.

In 1798, the Buffs were ordered to St. Kitts; detachments were sent to St. Vincents, Nevis, Anguilla, Barbados, and Demerara. The following year the whole of the regiment was assembled at St. Kitts, except one small detachment at Anguilla. They embarked from St. Kitts in March, 1801, and formed part of an expedition against St. Bartholomews. In 1801, the Buffs under Lieutenant-Colonel Blunt returned to St. Kitts.

True extract,

J. BROCKMAN, *Lieutenant and Fort Adjutant.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Captain-General of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, April 23, 1853.

I HAD the honour of addressing your Excellency, on the 8th February last, on the behalf of a British subject Mary Gordon, or as she is called here Maria del Carmen, a native of the Island of St. Christopher, and a free person, who was kidnapped from that island many years ago, by the master of a foreign vessel, and sold by him as a slave to Don Antonio Gaudalupe Colon, of Caguas, and I now have the honour of informing your Excellency that I have received an answer to the letter which I wrote to his Excellency the Governor of the Island of St. Christopher, begging him to send what information he could obtain respecting her. From the answer it clearly appears that the circumstance of her disappearance from the island was notorious, in that part of it when it took place, and the evidence of persons has been taken who declare that they knew the girl well, and that she was free, and one of them detailed the circumstance of her disappearance whilst bathing, and that finding her clothes upon the shore, several men went into the water to endeavour to find the body, what therefore she had previously stated to me has been confirmed, and there can be no doubt that she is a British subject, unlawfully carried away from St. Christopher,

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and as such I claim her, and trust that your Excellency will have the goodness to give orders that she and her family may be given up to me, to be sent by the British steamer to her island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 7 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Governor of St. Christopher.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, April 25, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Pickwood's letter of the 28th ultimo, and 5th instant, inclosing sundry depositions relative to Mary Gordon, a native of St. Kitts, about whom I took the liberty of begging your Excellency to endeavour to obtain such information as could be procured and forward it to me. I have communicated these to his Excellency the Governor of Porto Rico, with Mr. Pickwood's observations on the subject, but the Governor being absent upon a tour of inspection round the island, nothing will probably be done in the affair until his Excellency returns; in the meantime, as I am anxious to prove as clearly as possible that this woman really belongs to St. Kitts, I should be very glad, if through your Excellency's assistance, the registry of her baptism could be procured, as she says she was christened at the church at Sandy Point, and the period can nearly be ascertained for I have seen the bill of sale under which her present owner holds her, and it is dated at St. Thomas on the 5th June, 1822; supposing then that she may have been 10 or 12 years old, she will probably have been born about the year 1810. I feel the more anxious about this as the owner considers her a slave, belonging to St. Thomas, where she appears to have been sold by a person of the name of Samuel Hatrol, for 130 dollars to Francisco Coozengo or Comingo, under the name of Present, under which name it is stated in one of the depositions that her mother was known, if therefore it could be proved further than from the deposition that her mother was known by the name of Present, it would I think establish the fact that the person sold at St. Thomas under that name was the same as that carried off from St. Kitts, and illegally sold, as the name is such an unusual one. In both the depositions which Mr. Pickwood has taken, the father's name is stated as Dover Gordon, and Frances Christopher appears to have known her at a much earlier period than Ann Bennett. The Governor here has given orders in consequence of the owner's statement, that she belonged to St. Thomas, that she shall be sent there with a letter from him to the Governor of that island requesting him to ascertain whether she can be identified as the person sold in the bill of sale which has been produced, but this cannot be done, as she says that although the vessel was at St. Thomas for three days before she was brought down to Porto Rico, she was never taken ashore, and I suppose the captain found out her name from herself on her passage down from St. Kitts. She tells me if she could see a Mr. Parsons, who lived in the Alley at Sandy Point, he could get the papers directly to identify her, but he may be dead, or as the negroes speak so vaguely, perhaps she means the parson, as they are apt to call the clergyman of the parish of St. James's, at Sandy Point, she speaks however, so confidently of having been christened at Sandy Point, that as the parish registers about that time will without doubt have been kept, this case I should hope with a little trouble might be traced, and it really is an object of moment to get this poor woman out of slavery, as she has four children and two grand-children, who will be equally entitled to their freedom in being able to prove she belongs to St. Kitts, any expense therefore that might be incurred I would readily pay on obtaining the copy of the register in which her name appears properly authenticated. If any other mode of identifying this woman as belonging to St. Kitts, should occur to your Excellency, I should be glad to be favoured with it, and begging the favour of an early answer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 8 in No. 560.

The Acting Governor of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Porto Rico, May 6, 1853.

HAVING taken into consideration, as it deserves, your representation made me on the 8th of February last, in favour of the slave Maria del Carmen, belonging to Don Guadalupe Colon, who says she is a free woman, I gave orders that the District Judge of Caguas, who was acquainted with the affair, the slave and her master belonging to that jurisdiction, should inform me of the present state of the suit, which the Syndic of that town, as the defender of slaves, according to our rules of justice, was carrying on in the name of the slave with her said master, and, as he has informed me, that he had determined upon sending her to St. Thomas, with the document which had been presented by Colon as his title to hold her as his property, to identify her person, and examine her. I instructed him to send me the communication to the Governor of the said island, that I might request of him the speedy termination of this affair.

In this state the efforts of the slave stand, and finding to day that a person has been named who undertakes the charge of conveying her there, I send her with the said communication to the Governor of St. Thomas, for the purposes which I have stated.

In Caguas, Mr. Consul, as well as in all the heads of districts in this island, there are judges appointed to administer justice, and to be acquainted of, as the only competent persons, all quarrels which may arise in private affairs, for which reason I send the documents which you forwarded me in your letter of the 23rd of last month relative to this affair to that judge, in order that he may attach them to his Expediente, and bring them forward when judgment is to be given.

In the absence of the Captain-General, the second in command,
(Signed) MARQUIS DE ESPANA.

Inclosure 9 in No. 560.

Mr. Pickwood to Consul Lindegren.

Dear Sir,

St. Christopher's, June 13, 1853.

THE Governor desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, requesting him to furnish you with a copy of the registration of Mary Gordon's baptism.

I beg to inclose you a letter from Mr. Gittens, the Rector of Sandy Point, upon this subject, which will show you the difficulties which present themselves in almost every step that we take in the matter.

I shall, however, proceed to Sandy Point in person, and obtain all the information that can be collected after such a lapse of years, and shall have the honour to communicate to you officially on this subject by the next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN PICKWOOD.

Inclosure 10 in No. 560.

Rev. L. Gittens to Mr. Pickwood.

My dear Sir,

Sandy Point, May 15, 1853.

I DULY received your note with the letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Porto Rico; I would have answered your communication before now, but took time to go carefully over the Records. I regret to say, that I have looked through the register, from 1822 back to 1800, without success. The entry of the woman's baptism may be then simply under the name of Mary, or under some other

name, as it is common for the negroes to give one appellation at the time of baptism, and to call their children afterwards by some other. Could you not come down and see for yourself? it would give me pleasure to show you the Records.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LANTER GITTENS.

Inclosure 11 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Acting Governor of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, June 9, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 6th May last, informing me of the proceedings which were taking place relative to the slave Maria del Carmen, and that she and the documents by which Mr. A. G. de Colon claims her as his property, would be sent to St. Thomas by your Excellency for examination, at the request of the judge at Caguas, for which I am much obliged to your Excellency.

I take the liberty now of stating that, finding they were gone, I wrote to my correspondent at St. Thomas, to procure for me certified translated copies of the bill of sale, both in Spanish and English, and also to take the opinion of the most eminent advocate there upon the woman's case, which he has done. The translation of the bill of sale your Excellency will, without doubt, have received, and the opinion of Mr. Kinulff, a very distinguished advocate at St. Thomas, I have the honour to inclose, begging the favour of your Excellency to forward it to the judge at Caguas, as the advocate referred to gives it his most decided opinion for the reasons he produces, that according to the Danish laws, the auction bill of sale in question does not give Mr. Antonio Guadalupe de Colon any title to the said woman.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 12 in No. 560.

Opinion of Mr. Kinulff upon the case of Maria del Carmen.

St. Thomas, June 1, 1853.

HAVING been requested to give a legal opinion respecting the validity of a Danish bill of sale from the Vendue Director, passed in the year 1822, June the 5th, upon a negro woman called Present, said to be sold on public auction to a Mr. Francisco Comingo, which bill of sale has been produced by Mr. Antonio Guadalupe de Colon, of the island of Porto Rico, to establish his title to a negro woman called Maria del Carmen, which latter denies to be referred to in the bill of sale, or to have been ever presented at the auction mart of this island, but claims to be a British subject, stolen from the island of St. Kitts many years ago. I shall give the following opinion respecting the validity of said bill of sale as a proof in the present case, according to the Danish laws, and as if the claimant was here.

In the first instance, it strikes very strange to see it stated that the woman Present was sold at the request of Mr. Samuel Hokeb, according to power of attorney, but omit to state from whom that power was, or producing the power.

The Vendue Director with us can only convey proof that an auction has been held, but he cannot supply the deficiency of title, nor can he step in the place of the seller, and give validity to the title.

The title will at all times solely depend upon what right the seller had to the slave sold at auction, and therefore to give any valid title, it is always in the auction protocol stated who sells, or by power from whom any one sells. When such a power is wanted, and much more so where it is not even specifically stated for whose account the slave is sold, there exists no title whatsoever.

It was a first point in our laws respecting the sale of slaves, satisfactorily to show who was the seller, and also to prove his prior title.

Bills of sale in slaves were usually recorded, and the duty of the recorder ever was to examine on the records if the seller had legal title to such slaves, and whenever such did not appear on the records, the recorder would remark such on the bill recorded, as a deficiency of the same, under the penalty of paying the full value of such slave, should the title in time prove imperfect.

Mr. Samuel Hokeb, having in this case not named who his constituent was, nor proved any power, he could not convey any title whatever on the woman Present, sold at auction; and it appears very doubtful if he had any power, or if he wished it should appear who his constituent in this case was; for otherwise we can hardly see why he deviated from the usual established rule, so very necessary according to our laws, as a matter so necessary in the sale of a slave.

From the auction bill it can neither be seen if the woman Present was present at the auction or absent. Such being sometimes the case, that a slave who had been maroon a long time was put up as absent, it was not difficult for a pretended owner, who had no legal title, to sell as absent a person whom he claimed as his slave, without any suspicion would be awakened at the time.

The holder of the auction deed can neither prove that either the woman was present at the sale, or supply the proofs of title, as the protocol is said to be lost; and we have therefore no security for the woman in question, either as the woman sold, or for whose account she was sold.

The second point which presents itself why this bill of sale cannot be any guarantee for Mr. A. G. Colon as owner of the woman in question, is that he claims not any property to a woman called Present, but to quite a different person, called Maria del Carmen, with us here, the identity of the name being the first point of consequence; and where that is so materially different, the bill of sale would with us not give the least title to the woman, and quite different and most ample proofs would be required to prove all circumstances of her sale from the original owner, the consent of Government for her removal to a foreign island, and everything most plainly and amply proved, as no value whatever would be given to a bill of sale so different from the name in question, besides the defects it otherwise labours under.

Thirdly. The woman Maria del Carmen, must, according to appearances, be about forty-five years of age; now when we look at the date of the bill of sale, it is said therein, June 5th, 1822, that a negro woman (*negerinde*) "Present" was sold. This is thirty-one years ago. If now we deduct thirty-one years from her present age, forty-five, we will find she was about fourteen years at that time. In the Danish language, by "*negerinde*," is understood none less than eighteen to twenty-two years old, or before they become mothers.

Before that time they are called "*nigerjuge*," same in the English negrowoman and nigger-girl. Now it is expressly in the present bill of sale said "*negerinden*" (negrowoman); had the said Maria del Carmen been presented at auction on 25th June, 1822, she would necessarily have been called "*negernigen*" (negro girl); but we see that it was not a young girl, nor a girl, but a woman who was sold; therefore it cannot at all be reasonable to suppose it could have been the present Maria del Carmen, and this would in our court be sufficient to decide the case.

I give it therefore as my decided opinion that the auction bill of sale in question does not, according to our laws, give M. Anthony Guadelupe de Colon any title to the woman in question.

(Signed) JAS. KINULFF,
Advocate by Royal Commission.

Inclosure 13 in No. 560.

The Acting Governor of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Porto Rico, June 22, 1853.

I HAVE forwarded the communication which you made me on the 9th instant, relative to the slave Maria del Carmen, as well as the document which accompanied it, to the District Judge at Caguas, so that justice may take its course as you have requested in your said communication, which I now answer.

During the absence of his Excellency the Captain-General,
(Signed) MARQUIS DE ESPANA.

Inclosure 14 in No. 563.

Consul Lindegren to Mr. Pickwood.

Dear Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, June 28, 1853.

I HAVE received your private note of the 13th instant, with the letter from the clergyman at Sandy Point to you, by which I observe, that he could not trace out the baptism of Mary Gordon, owing to the irregular way in which the negroes give in their names, and I am afraid, therefore, that there is not any chance of discovering anything by these means, unless they insert the names of the godfather and godmother, who she told me were Betsy Tanial and Anthony Guave. This woman has since been sent to St. Thomas by the Governor, to see whether she can be identified with the bill of sale by which the present owner holds her, it having been made out there, but not to him. As, however, she was never landed at St. Thomas, it cannot be proved that she is the same person, and I have taken the opinion of the cleverest advocate in St. Thomas upon the bill of sale, who says decidedly that it is of no value whatever, and I have accordingly sent this opinion to the Governor.

This woman, Mary Gordon, tells me, that she saw at St. Thomas a woman, belonging to St. Kitts, who told her that her father, Dover Gordon, and one of her sisters, were still living, probably, therefore, at Sandy Point, and some information might, therefore, be obtained about her from one of them, and you will perhaps be so good as to make inquiries for them. I am sorry to give you all this trouble; but this does not involve the question of the liberty of one person only, for she has four children and two grandchildren who will be equally entitled to their freedom if the mother can be proved to have been unjustly subjected to slavery, and I am sure that the Governor as well as yourself would, therefore, be glad to assist me, as far as possible, in accomplishing the desirable object of their freedom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 15 in No. 560.

The Governor of St. Thomas to the Captain-General of Porto Rico.

Votre Excellence,

Saint Thomas, le 24 Mai, 1853.

J'AI l'honneur d'annoncer à votre Excellence que le Juge de St. Thomas a déclaré, sur les documents transcrits sur la question de la personne Maria del Carmen, qu'il n'a pas pu trouver des éclaircissements sur l'identité de la personne nommée Present, comme "le requérant de la vente," Samuel Hokeb, le directeur de la vente Niels Giellerup, et le commis Jacob Gartner, sont tous morts, et qu'il n'a aucun soupçon que le document ne soit pas expédié à St. Thomas, le 5 Juin, 1822. Les actes et le document sont retournés ci-joints.

Avec, &c.

(Signé)

T. OXHOLM.

Inclosure 16 in No. 560.

Mr. Pickwood to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

St. Christopher, June 29, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, by the direction of his Excellency the Governor, certified copies of the information made by Frances Guichard and Ann Bennett in the case of Mary Gordon.

His Excellency trusts that these documents will supply any deficiency that may have appeared in the chain of evidence already forwarded to you in this case, and it will afford his Excellency great satisfaction to learn that your humane exertions to effect the release of this much injured woman from a state of bondage, has been crowned with success.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWIN PICKWOOD.

Inclosure 17 in No. 560.

Certificate.

By his Excellency Edward Hay Drummond Hay, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor of Her Britannic Majesty's Leeward Islands, and Governor of the said Island of St. Christopher; Chancellor, Vice-Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c.

'THESE are to certify that Edwin Pickwood, Esquire, is a Justice of the Peace in the said island, and that the signature appended to the annexed informations is his proper sign manual.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at Government House, in the said island this twenty-ninth day of June, in the year of our Lord 1853.

(Signed)

E. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

By his Excellency's command.

(Signed)

EDWIN PICKWOOD,
*Private Secretary.**Deposition.*

The information of Frances Guichard taken this twenty-fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord 1853, before the Undersigned, one of Her Britannic Majesty's Justices of the Peace, in and for the said island, who saith that—
"I am a native of this island, born in the town of Sandy Point. I belonged to Mr. Maillard, my father purchased me from him when an infant. I do not know my age, but I was a girl at the taking of Martinique and Guadeloupe. I did not know 'Mary Gordon' personally, but I knew a widow living in Sandy Point called 'Present Gordon,' and I have often heard her, whilst speaking to another child of hers, make mention of her lost daughter 'Mary,' saying that she (the one spoken to) would never make the woman that the child she had lost would. I have often heard of the loss of 'Mary Gordon.' It was generally supposed that she was drowned. My father took me to St. Barts when quite young, where I resided for many years. I knew a Mr. Parson, who resided in Sandy Point; he came from St. Eustatias, and was a merchant here. When I returned from St. Barts, I met him here; he has been dead some years."

(Signed)

FRANCES ^{her} ~~X~~ GUICHARD.
_{mark}

Taken before me the day and year above mentioned, at Sandy Point,

(Signed)

EDWIN PICKWOOD,
Justice of the Peace.

The information of Ann Bennett taken this twenty-fifth day of June 1853, before the Undersigned, one of Her Britannic Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said island, who saith that—"I have already upon a former examination stated that I knew 'Mary Gordon.' I also knew her mother who was called 'Present Gordon.' I have also related the circumstances of 'Mary Gordon's,' loss. I knew a Mr. Parson who resided in this town for many years. He came from St. Eustatias and kept a store, selling 'dry goods.' The last house he lived in was next door to this Police Station. The premises belonged to one Mrs. Day. I do not know my age, but 'Mary Gordon' was lost before I was old enough to have children and I have now fifteen grandchildren."

(Signed) ANN ^{her}  BENNETT.
mark

Taken before me the day and year above-mentioned, at Sandy Point,
(Signed) EDWIN PICKWOOD,
Justice of the Peace.

Inclosure 18 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Governor of St. Christopher.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, October 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Pickwood's letter of the 29th June last, written by your Excellency's directions, containing certified informations made by Frances Guichard and Ann Bennett, in the case of Mary Gordon, which, however, do not appear to contain anything more to establish her case beyond confirming the previous depositions as the fact of the parties knowing Mr. Parsons whom Mary Gordon referred to as being able to prove her baptism, shows only that her knowledge of such a person was correct; and I am sorry to find, by Mr. Pickwood's private communication of the 13th June, that the clergyman at Sandy Point had not been able, on examining the books, to identify Mary Gordon among the baptisms, though there were some simply under the name of Mary. The case of Mary Gordon has been carried on before the judge, at Caguas, the town where the owner of Mary Gordon resides, and she has been placed in deposit and claimed by the Syndic or Protector of Slaves there, who brought forward such evidence as he could collect from the woman, as well as such as I had been able to transmit to the Governor; but I am sorry to say, that the judge has decided in favour of the owner, and it will now be brought forward by appeal before the Royal Court of Audiencia. I have seen the papers, and perceive, among the objections brought forward by the owner, the following, which induce me to trouble your Excellency.

1. That the origin of Mary Gordon, or as she is called here Maria del Carmen, is not proved, and whether she is a slave or not.
2. If the mother was free and had been a slave, whether she was born during her mother's slavery or afterwards?
3. The certificate of baptism wanted.
4. She appears to have been known, at Sandy Point, under the name of Mary, and her mother is called, in one deposition from St. Kitts, Mary, and in another, Present Gordon, under which latter name of Present, she was called in the bill of sale, when she was pretended to be sold in St. Thomas. Why was she called under these two names?
5. The depositions are not stated to have been taken upon oath, and, therefore, of no value.

The great point to be attained, and where the principal difficulty appears to lay, is in proving the baptism. The clergyman says, he finds Marys, but no Mary Gordon in the books; but is it not possible that she may have been baptized under the name of Mary Present, and might not something be found out by referring to the death of William Gordon, the master of her mother, who

became free at his death, for her freedom must surely be registered, and by that perhaps the freedom of the daughter might be proved? perhaps, also, the custom-house books, at the end of May, 1822, might show whether a vessel was at Sandy Point then, which brought a cargo of salt and took away a cargo of oranges, the name of the master of which was Monge, as she says, that a person of that name carried her away, though he may have been only the supercargo. When Mary Gordon was sent to St. Thomas, a little while ago, to ascertain whether she was the person who had been sold there, she was told that one of her parents was still alive; but if so, I think that Mr. Pickwood would have heard of it when he took the trouble to go to Sandy Point. I mention all these things as they occur to me, in hopes of being able to answer the owner's objections, and of some clue being found to prove the poor woman's case; and I appeal to your Excellency's humanity in her behalf, to assist me in obtaining her freedom, for this is not the case of one individual alone, but she has three daughters, a son, and two grandchildren, altogether seven persons, who will be entitled to their liberty if I can prove her case, and although I entertain no doubt in the matter myself, it is necessary that this should be done to enable me to satisfy Her Majesty's Government, who are very alive to questions of this nature, in case I should hereafter find it necessary to appeal to them for their interference with the Court of Spain, from any difficulties which may be started here, for the owner will use every exertion to establish his right, as, independent of the loss of the slaves, he will have to indemnify them for their services if it should be given against him. I should be glad, also, to know whether the depositions in the case before Mr. Pickwood, of Ann Bennett and Frances Christopher, both of St. Ann Sandy Point, taken on the 4th March, 1853, and of Frances Guichard and Ann Bennett, taken on the 25th June, 1853, were upon oath, as this is not stated in the information, and if so, I should be glad for a certified document to that effect, to present to the Governor in answer to the objections made by the owner, that they had not been sworn to.

I am sorry to be so troublesome, which, under the circumstances of the case, your Excellency will, I trust, pardon, and begging the favour your Excellency's early attention to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 19 in No. 560.

Mr. Pickwood to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

St. Christopher, September 12, 1854.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you, that he accidentally gathered from Dr. Dyett, in a recent conversation, that you had not received a reply to your letter to his Excellency of the 26th October last. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets you did not think proper to communicate directly with his Excellency, or with Mr. Pickwood, as he would have been able earlier to have done that which I am now desired by him to do, namely, to supply the omission occasioned by the miscarriage of Mr. Pickwood's answer, which was written shortly after the receipt of your letter.

The endeavours used to discover any points that could be of service in proving Mary Gordon's claim to British protection, have, much to the Lieutenant-Governor's regret, failed.

Justices Dyett and Pickwood, who have taken deep interest in the case, have been indefatigable in their inquiries, but to no further effect than is now before you.

The custom-house books afford no information with regard to the vessel in which Monge is said to have carried Mary away. By a general order of the authorities in England the manifests have been periodically destroyed, and we are thus deprived of the records that might have given authenticity to this part of the poor woman's tale.

The matter, however, has not been permitted to drop; and should the

Lieutenant-Governor become possessed of any evidence such as you seek, it will be communicated to you without delay.

I have the honour to transmit to you a certificate that the dépositions to which you refer were sworn to before Mr. Justice Pickwood.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. E. RINGLER THOMPSON,
Private Secretary.

Inclosure 20 in No. 560.

Certificate.

St. Christopher.

I HEREBY certify that the examinations of Anne Bennett and Frances Christopher, both of St. Anne's, Sandy Point, in this island, taken on the twenty-fourth day of March, 1853, and of Frances Guichard and Anne Bennett, on the twenty-fifth of June, 1853, in the case of Mary Gordon, were taken before me upon oath by command of the Lieutenant-Governor.

(Signed) EDWIN PICKWOOD,
Justice of the Peace.

By his Excellency Edward Hay Drummond Hay, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor of the Leeward Islands, administering the Government of St. Christopher and Anguilla, Chancellor, Vice-Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c.

These are to certify that the above-named Edwin Pickwood is, and was, at the time above-mentioned, a Justice of the Peace within this island, and that the signature above attached is his proper sign manual.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at Government-House, Saint Christopher, this eleventh day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

(Signed) E. H. DRUMMOND HAY.

Inclosure 21 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Captain-General of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, April 15, 1854.

I HAVE not troubled your Excellency further about the woman Maria del Carmen, nor have I considered it requisite to trouble Her Britannic Majesty's Government upon the subject, as I felt certain that the suit brought by the Syndic of Caguas against the owner, Don Antonio Guadalupe Colon, would have terminated favourably to her. I find however that the Judge at Caguas decided against her, and that the Royal Audiencia have confirmed his sentence. It does not concern me as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, whether the law authorities here, consider that Don Antonio Guadalupe Colon has a good title to the slave or not, I have only in my public capacity to look to one thing, and that is, that she is a British subject, as such she is acknowledged to be in the receipt given by Francisco Monge for the purchase of her by Antonio Colon, copy of which I beg to inclose,* the original being in the expediente in the Royal Court of Audiencia, the account also which she gave of herself as forwarded by me to your Excellency on the 8th February, is confirmed by the documents sent by the Governor of St. Kitts which I transmitted to your Excellency on the 23rd April last. It is my duty therefore to claim her, which I now do respectfully as a British subject, and whether she was a slave or a free person in that colony, does not alter her case as agreeable to the British Act of Parliament, passed in 1807, in the forty-sixth year of

* See Inclosure 25.

George IIIrd, cap. 52, any slave carried out of a British colony without the consent of the authorities, becomes the property of the Government and is from that moment free, and she comes under the class of British subjects which the Marquis de Miraflores in his letter of the 30th January, 1852, desired the then Captain-General of Porto Rico to give up. Her children are also equally entitled to their freedom, I beg therefore to recommend this case to your Excellency's favourable consideration, it being a subject on which I feel certain that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will take great interest, as they do in all cases where the liberty of any of Her Majesty's subjects are interested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 22 in No. 560.

The Captain-General of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Porto Rico, May 22, 1854.

I HAVE forwarded the letter which you addressed me on the 15th of last month respecting the suit of the slave Maria del Carmen with her master Don Guadalupe Colon, to the Royal Audiencia, for the purposes of justice of which I inform you in answer.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) FERNANDO DE NORZAGARAY.

Inclosure 23 in No. 560.

The Captain-General of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Porto Rico, October 9, 1854.

THE Royal Audiencia have decided in the suit respecting the liberty of the slave Maria del Carmen, that the sentence already passed by them shall be carried into its due effect, the said slave therefore is to be put in the possession of her master until she establishes her liberty with better proofs than those which she has hitherto brought forward, and they have consequently ordered that she shall be forwarded to the judge of the first instance at Caguas for the necessary purposes, but as you communicated to me the proceedings of Maria del Carmen, I communicate to you the result of them, informing you at the same time that there were legitimate grounds for defence, and that she had the representative which the law grants her.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) FERNANDO DE NORZAGARAY.

Inclosure 24 in No. 560.

Consul Lindegren to the Captain-General of Porto Rico.

Sir,

San Juan, Porto Rico, October 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday, and observe what you are pleased to say respecting Maria del Carmen. This woman placed herself under my protection as a British subject, and I defy any one to prove that she is not such. I cannot therefore consent, and must protest against her being given up to the person out of whose hands she was taken by the Captain-General then governing the island. In my letter of the 15th April, I stated to your Excellency that in my position as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, I had nothing to do with the Royal Audiencia in this case, and it is without any reference to the suit which has been carried on by the Syndic at Caguas in the name of Maria del Carmen, that I have

made this claim upon your Excellency, supported by the receipt given for the purchase money when she a British subject as therein stated, was so unjustly sold, and the other statements contained in the same letter, but to none of which I am sorry to see has your Excellency favoured me with a reply. I have now no other alternative but to refer this woman's case home without further delay for the consideration of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and in the meantime, I shall be extremely obliged to your Excellency, if you will be so good as to inquire of the Royal Audiencia by what Spanish law a British subject can be sold as a slave here, as I know of none.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 25 in No. 560.

Receipt given by Don Francisco Monge to Don Antonio Guadalupe Colon, for the purchase-money of Maria del Carmen.

(Translation.)

THESE are to certify that I, Don Francisco Monge, inhabitant of the city of Puerto Rico, have received of Don Guadalupe Colon, inhabitant of Caguas, the sum of 200 dollars, in the usual and current money of the Province, the value of a slave belonging to me, which I have sold him, of the English nation, named Maria del Carmen, of very dark colour, and ordinary height, under her competent bill of sale, from the Danish Government, and in proof of the receipt of the said sum, I sign this in the presence of Don Miguel Echevria, and Don Anastacio Huertas, inhabitants. At Caguas, on the 5th of October, in 1822.

(Signed) FRANCISCO MONGE.

Witness, MIGUEL ECHEVARIA.
ANSTACIO HUERTAS.

Inclosure 26 in No. 560.

Bill of Sale.

(Notarial translation.)

Niels Giellerup, Councillor of Justice and Vendue Director at St. Thomas,

MAKE known, that in the year 1822, the 5th of June, by virtue of my office, and in conformity with the Royal Ordinance, dated 19th December, 1693, regarding Vendues, at previous request of Mr. Samuel Hokeb, according to power of attorney, I have, at public vendue, offered out and sold the negro woman Present, according to the conditions stipulated for the vendue; where Francisco Comongo became the highest bidder for the sum of 131 dollars, for which sum of 131 dollars, the said negro woman present was knocked down to Francisco Comongo, for which purpose this bill of sale is granted to him, and he and his heirs may make the best use they know, will, or can, of the same

Witness my hand, and the seal of the Jurisdiction, datum ut ultra.

(Seal.)

(Signed)

N. GIELLERUP.

I, the Undersigned, L. C. Gad, Deputy Notary Public and Royal for this Island of St. Thomas, do hereby certify that the preceding translation is truly and faithfully made from the foregoing copy of an original bill of sale, in the Danish language.

Witness my hand and seal of office in St. Thomas, this sixteenth day of May, eighteen hundred and fifty-three.

(Seal of Office.)

(Signed)

L. C. GAD,
Notary Public.

Certifico que la firma y rubrica que precede de L. Gad, notario publico y jurado-constituida en esta isla, es la propia y verdadera y la que usa en todos sus escritos para que se dé entera fé en juicio y fuera de el.

Tambien certifico que este documento esta hecho segun las leyes de este pais, que prohiben el uso del papel sellado en los documentos de esta clase. Y para que asi consté lo firmo y sello en San Tomas al primer dia del mes de Junio de mil ocho cientos cincuenta y tres años.

El Consul de España,
(Firmado) ISIDRO LOPEZ DE ARZE.

Traducion fidedigna del idioma Ingles á el Castellano hecha en esta Cancelleria del adjunto certificado de Venta Publica en esta isla el año de 1822.

Niels Giellerup, Juiz de Justicia y Director de la Venta Publica de San Tomas, hago saber, que en el año 1822, el 5 de Junio, con poder de mi destino y en conformidad con la Real Ordenanza fechada 19 Diciembre de 1693, concerniente á ventas publicas y á ruego particular del Señor Don Samuel Hokeb, segun poder otorgadole, he ofrecido en publica subasta la negra Present, de acuerdo con las condiciones estipuladas por la venta en publica subasta, en la que Francisco Comongo, fué mayor rematador por la suma de 131\$ por cuya cantidad de ciento treinta y un pesos la dicha negra Present le fué adjudicada, por cuyo motivo se le concedio este papel de venta a él y sus herederos para que puedan hacer el mejor uso que sepan, puedan y quieran, de dicha venta.

Testigo mi firma y el sello de mi juridiccion fecha *ut antés*.

(Firmado) N. GIELLERUP.

El Consul de España,
ISIDRO LOPEZ DE ARZE.
(Sello del Consulado.)

No. 561.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Lindegren.

Sir

Foreign Office, November 24, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th of October, respecting the case of Mary Gordon, who was kidnapped from St. Kitts several years ago, and has been kept in slavery in Porto Rico; and I have to convey to you my approval of the active and persevering exertions which you have made in order to obtain the release of this unfortunate woman, and of her children and grandchildren.

I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid to make a representation in favour of this woman to the Spanish Government, and to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that she and her issue may be liberated.

You will transmit to me an account of the expenses which you have incurred in obtaining evidence and in carrying on the suit on behalf of Mary Gordon, and I have to authorize you to draw a bill for the amount, at three months' date, upon the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 562.

Consul Lindegren to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received January 1, 1855.*)

My Lord,

San Juan, Porto Rico, December 13, 1854.

I HAD the honour to address your Lordship on the 13th October, inclosing sundry letters and papers relative to the case of Maria del Carmen, a British subject, whom I have ineffectually been endeavouring to get released from slavery here, and I now take the liberty of inclosing translation of a letter dated the 24th of November last, written by his Excellency the Captain-General in answer to mine of the 10th of October last, which I considered it requisite to take notice of, as his Excellency appeared to consider that I had unnecessarily interfered in this woman's behalf, and had not made the claim until I had seen, upon presentation of the papers, that she was a British subject, whereas I had made it several months previously. His Excellency also stated, that she had made a claim herself not founded upon any national grounds, but stated that she had been brought from St. Thomas with the prospect of receiving some money here. This was taken from her examination in the suit; but his Excellency does not advert to her having stated, shortly afterwards, in the same examination, that she was a native of St. Kitts, all of which I have brought forward in the letter which I wrote his Excellency on the 30th of November last, copy of which I have also the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information, since which I have not received any further communication from his Excellency upon the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN LINDEGREN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 562.

The Captain-General of Porto Rico to Consul Lindegren.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Porto Rico, November 24, 1854.

I AM going to answer, in a few words, your communication of the 10th of October last, relative to the slave Maria del Carmen, belonging to Don Guadalupe Colon, an inhabitant of Caguas.

When, on the 8th of February, you made known to me the proceedings of the said slave, I informed you that I had recommended the case to the competent tribunal in deference to the application which you made me on her behalf. I interfered, by so doing, in a business appertaining to justice, alone to oblige you, that a fact might be ascertained which the Spanish laws punish with severity. I set aside also the consideration that you in your position as Consul could not interfere in an affair like the present one, because I have always endeavoured to satisfy the demands which you have made upon me without deviating from the boundaries fixed by the laws, but you insist in the defence of a slave who commenced a suit appearing in it without nationality or proper account of herself, alleging only that she had been brought from St. Thomas by Don Francisco Monge, with the promise of receiving certain property in this island, that after a year and when the suit had been brought to proof, you learn that she was a British subject, and upon that you undertook to found your claim.

That you may be satisfied of the want of foundation for your claim, I will tell you that it was decided upon according to the proceedings of justice, and has been carried into effect, which is equivalent to say, that the slavery of Maria del Carmen is a legal fact, and that after the sentence of the Royal Audiencia of which I informed you on the 9th of last month, there are no other steps to pursue but to make a complaint to the Supreme Tribunal of Grace and Justice of notorious injustice, and that if the defender of Maria del Carmen who has

not been wanting in any activity in the affair does not do this, it is a proof that there are no good grounds for proceeding in it. All which I point out to you in answer to your last above cited letter.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FERNANDO DE NORZAGARAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 562.

Consul Lindegren to the Captain-General of Porto Rico.

Sir,

Porto Rico, November 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 24th instant, in answer to mine of the 10th of October last, the contents of which caused me much surprise, and I cannot in justice to myself avoid addressing to your Excellency a few words in reply. Fully sensible of the courtesy with which your Excellency has always received my communications, I am not aware that I have ever made applications either to your Excellency or to any preceding Captain-General which I was not called upon to make in my official situation; but it would seem from your Excellency's letter that I had unnecessarily interfered in the case of Maria del Carmen, and not applied for her release until I had discovered upon the production of the proceedings of the suit carried on in her name with her master that she was a British subject, whereas I think it must have escaped the notice of your Excellency that I applied to your Excellency on the 8th of February, 1853, several months before the papers were sent up here for her release, in consequence of her application to me for assistance, and she gave so clear a statement of herself and the manner in which she had been carried off from St. Kitts, of which island she has in her suit declared that she was a native, that I entertained no doubt of her being a British subject. Her story has also been subsequently confirmed by evidences from that island which I forwarded to your Excellency when you wrote me that her cause was before the tribunal at Caguas, and that justice would be done her. Her advocate there also felt so certain of success, that even after the sentence was given against her by the judge at Caguas, he wrote me that he felt certain that the sentence would be revoked by the Royal Audiencia, which is the reason why I did not proceed further in my application then to your Excellency. Before, however, the sentence was passed here, her advocate, Don Esteban Calderon, who had defended her cause in Caguas, unfortunately died suddenly, and then finding that the sentence had been given against her, I considered it my duty to take up her cause myself, by addressing myself to your Excellency in the manner I did in my letter of the 15th of April last, when I certainly availed myself of Monge's receipt, acknowledging Maria del Carmen to be a British subject, for although all those to whom I shewed the papers as well as the leading authorities at St. Kitts' considered with me, that sufficient proof had been produced to establish her claim, this paper of itself clearly established her right to her freedom, for I know of no law which can make a British subject a lawful slave at Porto Rico; and it was only to your Excellency that I could apply for redress under the instructions written by the Marquis de Miraflores to the Captain-General of Porto Rico on the 30th January, 1852 (arising from complaints made by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, of many persons having been kidnapped from the British islands), to release all British subjects unjustly detained there in slavery; and I feel therefore confident that this is a case in which I am justified in calling for your Excellency's interference, as she comes under the description of those referred to in the Marquis de Miraflores's letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN LINDEGREN.

No 563.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Lindegren.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th of December, inclosing copies of further correspondence between yourself and the Captain-General of Porto Rico respecting the case of Maria del Carmen, and I have to state to you that I approve your proceedings in this matter. You will inform the Captain-General that Her Majesty's Government take much interest in this poor woman's case, and I hope that she will be set at liberty.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*St. Jago de Cuba.*

No. 564.

Consul Forbes to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 22.)

My Lord,

St. Jago de Cuba, December 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit inclosed for your Lordship's perusal, copies of a correspondence between Judge Gutierrez and Acting-Consul Beattie, in the claim to freedom of the negro Juan (Nancy's son) whose case was again opened here, in the present year, by a superior order.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 564.

Señor Gutierrez to Acting-Consul Beattie.

St. Jago de Cuba, September 28, 1854.

IN consequence of the "escrito" of the Syndic Procurator-General in the proceedings formed regarding the liberty of the negro Juan Herrera, I have ordered the present communication to be addressed to you, that you may transmit a certified copy of the law, which since 1st January, 1825, was in force in the Island of Jamaica, prohibiting the exportation of slaves from said Island, which as is believed, is by the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, their sole embarkation being sufficient for their confiscation.

And I say so to you, hoping for the result as soon as possible, seeing that the cause is now passing through the term of proof.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE LUIS GUTIERREZ.

Inclosure 2 in No. 564.

Acting-Consul Beattie to Señor Gutierrez.

Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, October 2, 1854.

I HAVE this day received your communication dated 28th September, in which you request me to furnish you as soon as possible with a certified copy of the law which prohibited, since the 1st January, 1825, the exportation of slaves Jamaica (or any other British possession) under pain of confiscation, the same from having been asked for by the Syndic in the proceedings pending with regard to the right of the negro Juan Herrera to freedom.

In compliance with said request I have the honour to hand you inclosed a printed copy of the British Act of Parliament 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, in order that the clauses bearing on the case in question may be translated for your tribunal by the Public Interpreter.

The clauses 2, 3, 14, 16, 17, and 42, were on a former occasion pointed out
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as bearing particularly on a similar case (the claim of the negress Betsy and family to freedom which was decided in their favour).

I have to observe that the copy of the Act of Parliament now transmitted was printed at the time it was passed by the King's printer, and would be admitted as authentic evidence in any British court of justice.

It only remains for me to state, that as the said Act of Parliament constitutes part of the archives of this Consulate, I shall feel obliged by your returning it to me as soon as you have obtained the necessary translations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHD. H. BEATTIE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 564.

Señor Gutierrez to Acting-Consul Beattie.

(Translation.)

St. Jago de Cuba, October 20, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you the printed paper which you were pleased to send to me with your oficio of 2nd current, and which was asked from you by this tribunal, in consequence of the Syndic having solicited it in the proof which he is adducing in the proceedings regarding the liberty of the negro Juan Herrera, son of the negress Nancy.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE LUIS GUTIERREZ.

TRIPOLI.

No. 565.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 31.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, January 22, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Slave Returns of this Consulate as well as of the Vice-Consulates of Bengazi, Morzouk, Derna, and Mesurata, for the year 1854.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 565.

RETURN of Slaves, Male and Female (the sex not being specified in the Custom-House Books), exported from the Port of Tripoli, during the year 1854.

1853	-	-	-	-	858
1854	-	-	-	-	472
					386
	Decrease	-	-	-	386

Tripoli, January 22, 1855.

(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 565.

RETURN of the Number of Negroes Exported from Bengazi during the Year 1854.

The total number of negroes shipped from this port
during the course of the past year amounts to - 526

Bengazi, January 1, 1855.

(Signed) F. H. S. WERRY, *Vice-Consul.*

N.B. The number of negroes exported from Bengazi during the year
1853 was - - - - 300

Increase - - - - 226

Inclosure 3 in No. 565.

PROSPETTO del numero di Schiavi arrivati in Mourzouk nel corso dell'anno 1854.

Numero.	Provenienza.	Maschi.	Feminine.	Valore Medio.	Mortalità in viaggio.	Mortalità in città.	Per dove Diretti.
1,766	Bornu.....	950	816	£ 21,550	15%	7%	Per Tripoli, Garien.
221	Vadai.....	60	161	2,850	uno	0	Gabel, Bengazi.
662	Haussa ...	285	377	7,650	5%	2%	Ed Egitto.
251	Gaat	184	67	2,770	0	0	
2,900		1,479	1,421	£34,920			

La mortalità proviene da disinteria, febbre, variolo, e forte strapazzo.

Il valore dei maschi è calcolato a £10 circa l'uno; le femmine a £14 circa l'uno, prezzo medio.

Vice-Consolato Britannico.

(Firmato)

G. B. GAGLIUFFI.

Mourzouk, 31 Dicembre, 1854.

NB.—Imported in 1854	..	..	..	..	..	2,900
Ditto in 1853	..	..	..	..	..	2,609
Increase	..	..	..	..	..	291

(Translation.)

The mortality proceeds from dysentery, fever, small pox, and fatigue.

The value of the male slaves is calculated at about £14 each; that of the females, at about £10 each, average price.

Inclosure 4 in No. 565.

RITORNO del Commercio degli Schiavi in Derna durante 1854.

Data 1854.	Qualità del Legno.	Nome.	Capitano.	Nazione.	Destino.	Maschi.	Feminine	Totale.
Agosto 10	Suma	Misghm ..	H. Pisachi	Ottomane	Canea.....	0	1	1
11	Suma	Cristino ..	Hasanachi	Ottomane	Canea.....	1	0	1
						Totale No.		2

I hereby certify that this return was received in a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Aquilina.

(Signed)

MEADE,

Tripoli, 22 January, 1855.

Vice-Consul.

NB.—No Return received for 1853.

Inclosure 5 in No. 565.

RETURN of Slaves of the Vice-Consulate of Misurata for the Year 1854.

Arrived.			Departed.		
Males	-	300	Males	-	250
Females	-	200	Females	-	160
Total	-	500	Total	-	410

Misurata, December 31, 1854.

(Signed)

C. T. WARRINGTON.

N.B. No Return received for 1853.

TURKEY.

No. 566.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 27.)

My Lord,

Therapia, September 9, 1854.

HER Majesty's Government, sympathizing with the nation at large, has long displayed a steady determination to put down the traffic in human creatures wherever it can be reached by their authority, their power, or their influence. In this country, the usages of society and the sanctions of religion, so fence round the practice of slavery, maintained by importation, that it is extremely difficult to obtain any mitigation, and still less a relinquishment, of the practice. The most zealous abolitionists acknowledge, that in Turkey, the slave, whatever be his complexion, has much to console him for the loss of liberty, and much to diminish his claim on the benevolent interference of free Christians. Her Majesty's Government and its agents have not, however, been backward in pleading the cause of humanity in the East, as they have long been foremost in asserting its rights in the West, and some effective attempts to narrow the circle of slavery have, from time to time, distinguished their progress, and encouraged their hopes of final success.

While the present eventful contest brings the Sultan's armies into collision with those of Russia, it also brings them into communication with the inhabitants of countries which, like Circassia and Georgia, have long supplied the slave-markets of Turkey, and particularly that of Constantinople, with the choicest commodities. The opportunity has not been neglected, and there is much reason to believe that the Traffic, which was carried on clandestinely before the war, in defiance of Russian prohibitions, has, of late, thrown off all disguise, and braved publicity without danger as without shame.

It appears that Admiral Hamelin was the first to give notice of its revival, and at his suggestion the French Embassy has more than once declared its desire to remonstrate with the Porte on that account. For my own part, however willing to join in so laudable a work, I have felt the difficulty of acting with effect, and I am still apprehensive that an unsuccessful attack may strengthen a bad cause. Fresh circumstances coming to my knowledge, have, however, overpowered these considerations, and a few days ago, I addressed an instruction to M. Pisani for communication to Reshid Pasha. M. Benedetti has taken the same course. I preferred the form of an instruction because it allowed me to employ stronger expressions without offence, and left open the more formal mode of proceeding by note, in case of necessity.

A copy of the instruction is inclosed herewith for your Lordship's information, and I also forward a copy of M. Pisani's report apprising me of the manner in which my communication has been received.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 566.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to M. Pisani.

Sir,

Therapia, August 29, 1854.

I HAVE heard with feelings of painful concern that the retirement of the Russians from certain parts of Circassia, and the irruption of the Turkish forces last year into Georgia, have been attended with consequences which tarnish the brightness of military success, and diminish the satisfaction to be derived from the Sultan's triumph in a just cause. The circumstances to which I allude, are the sale of women and children, taken from the Christian population of Georgia, and the revival of a Traffic in Slaves from among the Mahometan population of Circassia. It is well known that such acts, with respect to Christians, have none but a religious justification in the eyes of a Mussulman, and even this uncertain plea extends not to children of tender age. It is also notorious that to enslave a Mahometan is illegal in any country, where the creed of Mahomet prevails.

Notwithstanding these unquestionable truths, one kind of slavery insulting to Christians, and another condemned by Mahometans,—both being a scandal to humanity,—have been of late revived, and are now practised with impunity by the Sultan's subjects, at the very seat of Government. Worse than all this, the renewal of atrocities, which cannot be too strongly reprobated, is made to stand in contrast with the enemy's conduct in that respect, and the Sultan's allies, without whose cooperation the very existence of the Turkish empire would be endangered, Christians in faith, and champions of legality, are called to assist at outrages, which, in both characters, they repudiate with unutterable abhorrence.

These are not idle assertions. Circassians themselves are here to bear witness to what concerns their own country. I have received authentic information of Georgian children, brought to Constantinople, as slaves, in an Austrian steamer, and conveyed to a person high in the Turkish employment. It is matter of public notoriety that boys and girls from Georgia are sold in Pera and Galata.

Such things are inhuman enough at any time. They are scarcely credible when viewed as public transactions occurring at Constantinople under the reign of so benevolent a Sovereign as the present Sultan. Brought to notice at a time when Christian Powers have sent their armies and squadrons into Turkey for its defence, and when those armies and squadrons, composed of Christians, are fighting side by side with Mussulmans, and confounding all differences of religion in the common cause of humanity, and national independence, they set at nought every calculation, and excite the most unqualified disgust.

There are persons who distinguish between slavery in the East, and slavery in the West. The distinction is not wholly unfounded. Unlike the negro in America, the slave in Turkey is rather a domestic servant than a field-drudge, or beast of burthen. He is not ostensibly ill-treated. If a male, he rises occasionally to posts of profit and honour: if a female, ease, and even luxury, may be her portion in the harem of some court favorite or opulent functionary. The degradation, nevertheless, remains; and the privation of liberty, not forfeited by crime, is itself an intolerable evil. But the injury does not stop there; the slave can hold no property; he is a property himself: and worse than all, he is but too often an instrument of vice, and sometimes even of crime. His life is at his owner's mercy. If a Christian, his children are born to slavery, as if to reconcile those, who never can be parents, to the mutilation which deprived them of that hope. In one respect there is no difference between Negro and Circassian slavery. Black or white, wherever slavery exists, the whole society suffers. A curse is on the trade. Dealer and owner are alike infected by the taint. They treat their fellow-creatures like brutes, and are themselves brutalized in return.

In Turkey, where the disease, appearing in a milder form, is, nevertheless fatal to a sound state of health; imported slaves fill many places in the state, and most places in private families, which might be better occupied by free natives. So placed, they minister to those habits of expense and sensuality

which undermine the strength of the Empire, and convey but too often the sentiments of a slave, into posts of high command, and honourable trust.

Such being the case, it is not too much to expect that in its own interest, as well as from consideration for its allies, the Porte will exert itself to check the barbarous and shameful practice which I have described. Let preventive measures be applied to three stages of the Traffic—to purchase, to conveyance, and to sale. Let a firman declare the Sultan's pleasure in these respects. Let peremptory instructions prohibiting the purchase of slaves be sent to the Commanders of His Majesty's forces. Let the conveyance of slaves be treated as contraband, on the responsibility of all concerned. Let their sale within the Sultan's dominions be strictly prevented by the police, and every transgression be visited with punishment on buyer and seller alike.

So long as the trade is permitted or connived at, so long as preventive measures, capable of enforcement, are loosely, or not at all, employed, the Turkish authorities will justly be open to censure, and incur, to their peril, the charge of acting upon principles inconsistent in spirit and effect with the existing alliances. Let them beware of producing throughout Christian Europe, a total relaxation of that enthusiasm for the Sultan's cause which has hitherto saved his empire from the grasp of Russia.

You will read this instruction to the Ottoman Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and you will leave a copy and Turkish translation of it in His Highness's hands.

I have reason to believe that the French Embassy takes a similar step.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 566.

M. Pisani to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Pera, September 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that I read to Reshid Pasha, and left in his hands a copy and Turkish translation of your Excellency's instruction of the 29th ultimo, relating to the revival of Traffic in Slaves from Georgia and Circassia.

His Highness seems aware of the importance and propriety that an end should be put to such a Trade, and promised to communicate with his colleagues, and take the Sultan's pleasure as to the preventive measures to be adopted for the abolition of similar transactions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. PISANI.

No. 567.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

HER Majesty's Government have read with the greatest satisfaction your Excellency's admirable instruction to M. Pisani respecting the Trade in Circassian and Georgian slaves, which is inclosed in your despatch of the 9th of September.

It is unnecessary to say that Her Majesty's Government have learned with indignation that the services which the allies have rendered to the Sultan should have aggravated a state of things so atrocious and disgusting. The honour of England, no less than the interests of humanity, require that no effort should be spared at this moment for the suppression of slavery in the Ottoman dominions; and if the necessary measures for that purpose are not taken by the Turkish Government, you will make a more formal application to the Porte; and you will at all events inform Reshid Pasha that the subject

engages the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government, who trust that the Turkish Ministers will have the sagacity to appreciate your Excellency's advice and the moral courage to act upon it, and, by putting an end to this hateful system, to promote the future welfare of Turkey.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 568.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 30.)

My Lord,

Therapia, September 19, 1854.

I HAVE learnt from Reshid Pasha that the Porte has taken into favourable consideration my remonstrances and suggestions on the subject of slaves imported from Georgia and Circassia.

His Highness has authorized me to expect that orders will speedily be given to prevent the continuance of so shameful a Traffic, and that a corresponding official communication is to be addressed to the British and French Embassies.

I shall lose no time in forwarding to your Lordship any such communication as soon as I receive it.

Meanwhile, it is greatly to be lamented that vessels under the Austrian flag, I mean those which belong to the Austrian Lloyd's Company, are allowed to convey slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 569.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 8.)

My Lord,

Therapia, September 25, 1854.

THE Sultan has given his formal sanction to the measures proposed to him by the Porte on my demand, concerted with the French Chargé d'Affaires, for the suppression, if possible, of the Traffic in Slaves from Georgia and Circassia. I expect to have copies, in three or four days, of the firman now in preparation for giving effect to the Porte's intention. They shall be transmitted to your Lordship, if not by the next messenger, as I hope, at least, by the earliest opportunity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 570.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 21.)

My Lord,

Therapia, October 9, 1854.

THE Imperial firmans prepared in virtue of my remonstrances for the repression of that pernicious Traffic in Slaves, which has so long contaminated the relations of Turkey with Georgia and Circassia, have been communicated to me by Reshid Pasha, and I have now the greatest satisfaction in forwarding translations of them to your Lordship herewith.

The final clause in each was added to the original draft at my particular request; and if the enforcement of the Sultan's commands be made, as I hope, to correspond with the language in which they are couched, a mortal blow has been given to one of the most destructive evils under which this empire languishes.

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I have suggested to Reshid Pasha the expediency of communicating the firmans officially to the foreign Representatives here, and of calling the Internuncio's attention, as I have myself done in confidence, to the manner in which vessels under the Austrian flag are allowed to promote the Slave Trade by giving passage to slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 570.

Firman.

(Traduction.)

Firman adressé à Moustafa Pacha, Commandant de l'Armée Impériale de Batoum, chargé aussi de la défense des côtes de Sohoum, et décoré de l'Ordre Impérial de Medjidiyé de la première classe.

A toi mon Vizir,

L'ON vient d'apprendre et de constater qu'il y a des gens qui prennent de la Georgie des enfants et des femmes, et les vendent en disant que ce sont des esclaves.

Je n'ai pas besoin de dire que ce procédé est très blâmable et abominable. Indépendamment de cela, c'est aussi une chose contre le point d'honneur et contre l'humanité, et c'est pourquoi j'ai donné des ordres que désormais ce procédé soit rigoureusement prohibé dans ces pays là, et que tout individu qui aura eu l'audace de faire une chose pareille soit sur le champ sévèrement puni. En conséquence, le présent commandement Impérial est émané de mon Divan Impérial et expédié pour publier mes ordres souverains.

Informé que tu seras de ce dont il s'agit tu porteras à la connaissance de tous ceux qu'il faudra dans ce pays là mes ordres souverains, et dorénavant, comme il a été dit plus haut, si un cas pareil se produit le vendeur ainsi que l'acheteur soit immédiatement puni de la manière la plus rigoureuse. Tu prendras donc les mesures les plus énergiques afin que chacun sachant avec quelle rigueur l'achat et la vente d'esclaves sont prohibés, personne n'aye l'audace de faire cette chose abominable; tu feras, donc, tout ton possible en faisant les recherches nécessaires de découvrir les femmes et les enfants qui se trouvent au pouvoir de tel ou de tel autre individu et de les faire consigner à leurs familles.

Des lettres Vizirielles ont été expédiées au Pacha de Trebizonde et aux Gouvernements des Districts de Djanih et de Lazistan contenant des instructions à l'effet que les femmes et les enfants ainsi enlevés ne puissent pas passer par terre dans l'intérieur de l'Anatolie ou débarquer dans aucune partie, et vous serez constamment en communication avec ces fonctionnaires sur cette matière importante.

Tu ajouteras foi au noble chiffre dont est décoré le présent commandement Impérial donné dans la première dizaine du mois de Moharrem, l'an 1271 (le 1 Octobre, 1854).

Inclosure 2 in No. 570.

Firman.

(Traduction.)

Firman adressé à Mustafa Pacha, Commandant de l'Armée Impériale de Batoum, chargé aussi de la défense des côtes de Sohoum, et décoré de l'Ordre Impérial de Medjidiyé de la première classe.

A toi mon Vizir,

L'HOMME est la plus noble de toutes les créatures sorties des mains de Dieu, qui l'a destiné à être heureux, en lui accordant la grâce de naître naturellement libre. Mais, contrairement à sa destination primitive et fortunée, les Circassiens se sont fait une étrange habitude de vendre les enfants et leurs parents en qualité d'esclaves, et même, ce qui se pratique parmi quelques

Circassiens, de voler les uns les enfants des autres, et de les vendre comme des animaux et des marchandises.

Or ces procédés, vraiment incompatibles avec la dignité de l'homme et contraires à la volonté du Souverain Créateur, sont extrêmement mauvais et blâmables, et je les condamne aussi complètement. C'est pourquoi je viens d'ordonner, qu'à l'effet d'empêcher cet état de choses, on donne des conseils efficaces et les ordres nécessaires et analogues aux Circassiens; qu'en même temps, on prenne des mesures pour empêcher l'embarquement d'esclaves dans les échelles qu'il faut pour cela; et qu'on fasse savoir ce dont il s'agit à toutes les autorités militaires et civiles de ces environs là.

En conséquence, le présent illustre firman est émané exprès de mon Divan Impérial pour publier mes ordres souverains à cet égard.

Toi, donc, Mouchir susmentionné, informé que tu seras de ce que j'ordonne, tu procéderas avec ce zèle qui te caractérise, et cette grande intelligence qui te distingue, à porter ma volonté souveraine à la connaissance des Circassiens, et de tous ceux qu'il faudra, en la publiant de la manière la plus détaillée; tu feras tout ce que ton savoir-faire et ta sagacité te suggéreront pour mettre fin, en donnant et faisant exécuter les ordres nécessaires, à l'usage illégal et abominable de vendre les enfants et leurs parents; tu prendras les mesures nécessaires pour empêcher le passage d'esclaves et leur embarquement dans les échelles qu'il faut pour cela; et en outre, comme il est nécessaire de punir ceux qui, en contravention à ces ordres, sont coupables de la vente de leurs parents, ou du vol des parents et des enfants d'autrui, ou qui désirent les exporter au dehors après les avoir achetés, vous ne négligerez en aucune manière ce point; enfin, tu mettras tous tes soins à faire tout ce que ci-dessus, et tu ajouteras foi au noble chiffre dont est décoré le présent commandement Impérial, donné dans la seconde dizaine du mois de Moukharem, l'an 1271 (commencement d'Octobre, 1854).

No. 571.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your Excellency's despatch of the 9th instant, inclosing translations of the two Imperial firmans which have been addressed to the Pasha in command of the Ottoman army at Batoum, prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves in Circassia and Georgia.

I have received the Queen's commands to desire that your Excellency will acquaint the Sultan, that Her Majesty has learnt with sincere gratification that these firmans have been issued by His Imperial Majesty; and you will add that Her Majesty duly appreciates the readiness with which the Porte has adopted this wise and humane measure.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 572.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 9th instant, inclosing translations of the Sultan's firmans prohibiting the Traffic in Circassian and Georgian slaves, I have to state to your Excellency, that it appears to Her Majesty's Government desirable that the officers commanding Her Majesty's ships in the Black Sea should be enabled to afford their cooperation to the Turkish authorities in order to prevent the Sultan's prohibition of this Traffic from being evaded by ships under the Ottoman flag, which may take advantage of the undisturbed intercourse between the eastern coast of the Black Sea and Constantinople which has been lately established.

I have therefore to instruct your Excellency to request the Ottoman Government to empower the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's ships in the Black Sea to concert with the Governors of Batoum and Trebizond the adoption of such measures as may effectually prevent the continuance of the Traffic in Circassian and Georgian slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 573.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 2, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Excellency of the 23rd ultimo,* instructing you to make an arrangement with the Porte in order that the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's fleet in the Black Sea may be enabled to assist in the enforcement of the Sultan's prohibition against the Traffic in Circassian and Georgian slaves, I transmit herewith for your Excellency's information, copies of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, and of the answer† which I have received from his Excellency, by which your Lordship will learn that M. Drouyn de Lhuys has agreed to send to the French Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople instructions upon this matter similar to those contained in my despatch to your Excellency of the 23rd of October.

I have at the same time to add, that it would be expedient that the Commander-in-chief of the Ottoman naval forces in the Black Sea should receive instruction from his Government as to the cooperation of Her Majesty's ships with him in the enforcement of the firmans in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 574.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 9, 1854.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 9th ultimo, I transmit herewith, for your information, copies of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Vienna, and of the answer‡ which I have received from his Lordship, respecting the statements contained in your Excellency's despatches of the 9th and 27th of September, by which it appeared that the vessels belonging to the Austrian Lloyds Company were allowed to convey slaves to Constantinople.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 575.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 28, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Excellency of the 9th instant, on the subject of the conveyance of slaves to Constantinople by the steamers of the Austrian Lloyds Company, I transmit herewith, for your

* No. 572.

† No. 230 and 231.

‡ Nos. 69 and 70.

information, a copy of a further despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Vienna, stating that Count Buol will instruct the Interofficio to take measures for putting a stop to this practice.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 576.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord,

Therapia, November 11, 1854.

REFERRING to my previous correspondence on the subject of measures adopted by the Porte for the repression of Slave Trade in Georgia and Circassia, I have now the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a translation of an instruction addressed to the Dragoman of the Porte by the Ottoman Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and communicated officially to the British and French Embassies.

An instruction of similar purport has been communicated to the Austrian Internuncio, at my suggestion, with reference to vessels navigating the Black Sea under Austrian colours, and engaged but too often, I fear, in the conveyance of slaves from Trebizond to Constantinople.

I took occasion some time ago to draw Baron de Bruck's attention to this reprehensible practice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure in No. 576.

Instruction addressed to the Dragoman of the Porte.

(Translation.)

November 1, 1854.

THE instruction addressed to the chief Interpreters of the British and French Embassies, M. Pisani and Mr. Scheffer, by his Excellency Lord Stratford, Ambassador Extraordinary of Great Britain, and by M. Benedetti, Chargé d'Affaires of France, relative to the individuals coming in slavery from Georgia and Circassia, have been brought under the consideration of the Council.

The suggestions made on this subject are conformable with the dictates of humanity, and with the sentiments of the Sublime Porte, and are fully confirmed by the opinions entertained by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan. The capture of Georgian and Circassian women and children is a thing by no means sanctioned by the Porte, and orders having been already issued on this subject, the recurrence of this reprehensible act, owing to some cause or other, has been viewed with regret. The strange proceeding of the Circassians, that of selling their children and relatives, or of kidnapping each other's children for sale, is likewise worthy of reprobation, and must be put a stop to.

You will, therefore, communicate to the English and French Embassies copies of the two stringent firmans on this subject, issued by orders of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and you will inform them that henceforward more particular attention will be paid to this matter; that inquiry is being made concerning individuals reported to have arrived here from Georgia, in order that they may be set immediately at liberty, and return, if they desire it, to their families; and that peremptory injunctions have been sent to the requisite quarters on the subject of these slaves.

No. 577.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord,

Therapia, November 15, 1854.

IN conveying Her Majesty's message to the Sultan respecting the suppression of Slave Trade in Georgia and Circassia, I took occasion to propose, agreeably to your Lordship's instructions, that orders should be given to the Governors of Trebizond and Batoum to concert with Admiral Dundas the most advisable and efficient means for giving effect to the instructions of His Imperial Majesty. I have now the satisfaction to state, that a gracious reply was given to my suggestion, and that corresponding commands have been since received by the Ottoman Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 578.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 28.)

My Lord,

Therapia, November 15, 1854.

INCLOSED herewith for the information of Her Majesty's Government, is copy, in translation, of an instruction to the Dragoman of the Porte, directing that officer to apprise the Austrian Legation of the Imperial orders issued for the prevention of Slave Trade in Georgia and Circassia, and to request that the steamers of the Austrian Lloyds Company should be prevented from receiving slaves on board from those countries.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure in No. 578.

Instruction addressed to the Dragoman of the Porte.

(Translation.)

IMPERIAL orders having been lately issued against the extraction of women and children from Georgia and Circassia as slaves, you are hereby instructed to inform the Austrian Legation thereof, and to request that orders may be given to prevent the steamers of the Lloyd Company from receiving on board any individuals of that category, either at Trebizond or at other places in that neighbourhood.

No. 579.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 29, 1854.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 11th instant, inclosing a copy of an instruction addressed by the Ottoman Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the Dragoman of the Porte respecting the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves from Georgia and Circassia, I have to inform your Excellency that I approve of the course adopted by you with regard to that matter; and I have to instruct you again to thank the Ottoman Government for the measures which they have taken for the prevention of this Traffic.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 580.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 8, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 23rd of October and 2nd of November, and to your Excellency's of the 15th of November,* respecting the proposed cooperation of Her Majesty's naval forces in the Black Sea in suppressing the Slave Trade from Circassia and Georgia, I have to acquaint you that I have communicated to the Lords of the Admiralty the firmans and instructions issued by the Porte respecting the suppression of that Traffic, and I now transmit to your Excellency, herewith, a copy of a letter from the Admiralty stating that Her Majesty's vessels cannot be legally authorised to detain Ottoman vessels carrying slaves, as no Treaty for the suppression of Slave Trade exists between this country and the Porte; and I have to request your Excellency to give me your opinion whether you consider it probable that the Porte would consent to make such a Treaty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

 Inclosure in No. 580.
The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Wodehouse.

My Lord,

Admiralty, December 2, 1854.

WITH reference to your letter of the 30th ultimo, respecting the cooperation of Her Majesty's naval forces in the Black Sea for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Georgia and Circassia, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, that no orders to detain vessels conveying slaves from Georgia and Circassia can be issued; and that the seizure of such vessels would not be legal in the absence of a specific Treaty with the Porte.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. OSBORNE.

 No. 581.
Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 23.)

My Lord,

Pera, December 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the translated copy of a Vizirial letter addressed to the Governors of Batoum and Trebizond, empowering and directing those authorities to concert measures with the Admirals commanding the allied squadrons in the Black Sea, for the purpose of giving more effect to the Sultan's firman, prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves from Georgia and Circassia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

 Inclosure in No. 581.
Vizirial Letter addressed to the Governors of Batoum and Trebizond.

(Traduction.)

Le 1 Décembre, 1854.

DES firmans ont été écrits et expédiés exprès dernièrement par lesquels il a été défendu de laisser sortir de la Circassie une personne quelconque en qualité d'esclave; et défense a également été fait aux Circassiens de vendre

* Nos. 572, 573, and 577.

leurs enfants et leurs parents. Tels étaient les ordres publiés par les susdits firmans.

La Sublime Porte a fait savoir aussi par différentes dépêches écrites exprès, et ordonné qu'on ait à prendre les mesures nécessaires à ces égards, dans les échelles qui servent de débouchés à l'exportation des individus de cette catégorie.

Cette question exige, comme question d'humanité, une très grande attention, et c'est pourquoi la Sublime Porte veut absolument que toutes ses autorités y mettent le plus grand soin, et qu'elles fassent tous leurs efforts pour remplir le but qu'on a en vue.

L'honorable Ambassadeur d'Angleterre vient de nous faire savoir que puisque la flotte de l'illustre Gouvernement Anglais se trouve dans ce moment-ci dans la Mer Noire, Sa Majesté le Padicha de la Grande Bretagne a autorisé aussi l'Amiral Anglais à donner au besoin son assistance aux autorités Ottomanes pour empêcher l'exportation d'individus en qualité d'esclaves, comme ceux ci-dessus désignés; et il est évident que l'Amiral de la flotte de l'illustre Gouvernement Français qui est dans la Mer Noire emploiera aussi ses soins dans une affaire de telle importance.

Il faut donc qu'en cas de besoin votre Excellence se concerte avec les Amiraux là dessus, et qu'elle prenne des mesures à l'effet d'empêcher qu'aucun des individus de la catégorie ci-dessus désignée ne sorte d'un port suspect.

Je dois vous avertir en même tems que la moindre négligence à cet égard vous rendra fortement responsable.

No. 582.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 23.)

My Lord,

Therapia, December 9, 1854.

I AVAIL myself of the present opportunity to forward copies of correspondence which has recently passed between Vice-Admiral Dundas and myself, on the subject of enforcing the Sultan's firmans against Black Sea Slave Trade by a concerted cooperation between our naval officers and the Turkish authorities at Batoum and Trebizond.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 582.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to Vice-Admiral Dundas.

Sir,

Therapia, November 21, 1854.

IN pursuance of instructions from the Earl of Clarendon, I have requested the Porte to direct the Governors of Batoum and Trebizond to make arrangements in concert with you, for giving more complete effect to the Imperial firmans, by which His Majesty the Sultan has lately prohibited the Traffic in Slaves from Georgia and Circassia.

I have now the satisfaction to inform you that the Sultan's Government have listened promptly to my application, and that corresponding instructions are to be sent to the above-mentioned Governors.

Of those instructions I propose to send you copies as soon as I obtain them from the Porte. If I were honoured in the meantime with your opinion as to the most efficient mode of acting in concert with the Turkish authorities, I should be better prepared to bring about a thorough understanding and cooperation between you and them.

For your more complete information, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Slave Trade firmans, as well in Turkish as in French translation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 582.

Vice-Admiral Dundas to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord, "Furious," in Karatch Bay, November 30, 1854.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of the 21st instant, I have the honour to inclose for your information a copy of instructions I gave on the 28th June last, to the senior officer employed on the coasts of Circassia, &c., and I now think the best measure I can adopt to assist in the suppression of so serious an evil as the Traffic of Slaves, will be to direct the several officers in command of Her Majesty's ships to seize, and deliver to the Turkish authorities, all persons they may find engaged in such Traffic, but I am anxious to use any means in my power that your Excellency may suggest to carry out the end in view.

Lord John Hay in Her Majesty's steam frigate "Tribune" will soon proceed from this along the Circassian and Anatolian shores, and communicate with the official authorities, returning to this place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. D. DUNDAS.

Memorandum.

"Britannia," off Baljik, June 28, 1854.

The greatest care and attention is to be taken to discourage by every peaceful means the exportation of slaves from the coasts of Circassia and Georgia, and as I hear that Schamyl has also forbidden this Traffic, you will apply to him or his deputies for their assistance in effecting this most desirable object.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. D. DUNDAS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 582.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to Vice-Admiral Dundas.

Sir, Therapia, December 6, 1854

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your information, a translated copy of the Vizirial letter addressed to the commander of the Ottoman army at Batoum, and also to the Pasha of Trebizond, directing them to concert with you and with Vice-Admiral Hamelin, if so disposed, the most advisable measures for enforcing the provisions of the Sultan's firman abolishing the Traffic in slaves from Circassia and Georgia.

I write to prepare Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Trebizond for communicating with any officer whom you may think proper to appoint for the execution of this service. He will be in possession of the Turkish text of the Grand Vizier's letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 583.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord, Foreign Office, February 5, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith an extract of a despatch, a copy of which has been received at this office from the Admiralty, and which was addressed to Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons on the 8th of January, by Captain Lord John Hay, of Her Majesty's ship "Tribune."

It appears by this despatch that the Turkish authorities in the ports of the Black Sea have shown no willingness to give effect to the Sultan's firman

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prohibiting the Traffic in Circassian and Georgian slaves; and that when two boats laden with Circassian slaves arrived at Trebizond about the 26th of December last, the Pasha's excuse for not detaining them was, that he could not define whether they were slaves or not.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate the inclosed extract to the Ottoman Government, and to request that clear and stringent instructions may be sent to the proper authorities in the ports of the Black Sea, pointing out to them that there can be no difficulty in ascertaining whether or not the Circassians or Georgians brought to those ports are intended for sale, and that the Pashas must be held strictly responsible for the punctual execution of the Sultan's orders declaring that this Traffic is to cease.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 583.

Captain Lord John Hay to Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons.

(Extract.)

"Tribune," at Karatch, January 8, 1855.

ON the 28th of December, 1854, visited the Mushir at Tchoorooksoo: having expressed my surprise that the Pasha at Soukhoun Kaleh had not received orders relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade, the Mooshir informed me, that he was most anxious to give immediate effect to the Sultan's firman, but although he had received the firman six weeks previously, no opportunity had as yet presented itself of communicating with Soukhoun Kaleh. Indeed the country boats passing with provisions were liable to capture by the enemy's gun boats out of the rivers at Poti and Anakria, and the only steamer at his disposal was merely sufficient to bring provisions from Trebizond for the use of the army.

Proceeded to, and arrived at, Trebizond, on the 29th December, 1854. The Pasha was absent when I visited him, I however learnt from Mr. Stevens, Vice-Consul, that two boats laden with Circassian slaves had arrived at this port a few days previous. The Pasha did not clearly see how he could give effect to the firman of the Sultan not knowing how to define whether the people were slaves or not.

I recommended that Mr. Stevens' advice should be acted on, and that the boats and people should be detained on suspicion.

Altogether I think there does not appear to exist among the Turkish officials any excessive anxiety to put a stop to the Circassian and Georgian Slave Trade.

No. 584.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith to your Excellency, for any steps that you may think it expedient to take thereupon, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul in Abyssinia, on the subject of the Slave Trade carried on between that country and the Turkish dominions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 584.

Consul Plowden to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Massowah, November 6, 1854.

WITH reference to the desire shown by Dejj Kasai for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I beg to suggest to your Lordship for consideration, whether it would be practicable to induce his Highness the Sultan to forbid the sale of Galla slaves in his dominions, thus confining that Trade, if it must exist, to the Shankalla or negro tribes.

As long as Gallas continue to be sold, Abyssinian Christian children will be mixed up with them.

I cannot judge if this be a proper moment or not for urging such a request.

The port of Tajoura in the neighbourhood of Aden being in the hands of a petty and not very civilized prince, I do not see what considerations should prevent Her Majesty's Government from effectually checking the Trade in Gallas in that quarter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WALTER PLOWDEN.

No. 585.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received a despatch from Mr. Ongley, Her Majesty's Consul at Canea in Crete, inclosing a copy of his despatch* to your Excellency dated the 5th ultimo, and with reference to the concluding paragraph of Mr. Ongley's despatch, in which he states that a considerable trade in African slaves is carried on from Barbary to Crete, I have to desire your Excellency to urge the Porte to extend the benevolent intentions which they have shown as regards the suppression of the Georgian and Circassian Slave Trade, and to put a stop to the Trade in African slaves between the coast of Barbary and Candia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 586.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1855.

I HAVE received from Her Majesty's Consul at Erzeroom copies of the despatch which he addressed to your Excellency on the 19th ultimo, and of its inclosures, reporting the steps which he had taken with the view of procuring the restoration to freedom of several Georgian slaves at Erzeroom and Kars; and I have to state to your Excellency, that it appears to Her Majesty's Government that it will be necessary for the Ottoman Government to adopt rigorous measures in order to carry out the benevolent intentions of the Sultan with regard to the suppression of the Georgian and Circassian Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 589.

No. 587.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 28.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, March 19, 1855.

THE Porte on my application has issued its orders to the Pasha of Tripoli directing him to adopt measures for the prevention of any Traffic in slaves between the territory under his Government and the Island of Candia.

A copy of the Vizirial letter thus obtained has been communicated by Aali Pasha to Her Majesty's Embassy, and a translation in French accompanies this despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure in No. 587.

Vizirial Letter addressed to the Pasha of Tripoli.

(Traduction.)

Le 18 Mars, 1855.

NOUS voyons, d'après quelques bruits qui courent, que depuis peu grand nombre d'esclaves noirs sont envoyés de l'Afrique à l'Île de Candie et qu'on les y vend.

Votre Excellence n'ignore pas que comme ce commerce est contraire au système plein de compassion, à l'excellent système que la Sublime Porte a adopté, nous voulons que ce commerce cesse, autant qu'il est possible.

Agissant, donc, avec cet excellent jugement qui la caractérise, votre Excellence aura à prendre à cet égard les mesures efficaces et nécessaires à l'effet de faire cesser cet état de choses ; et c'est à cette fin que je lui écris cette lettre.

No. 588.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th instant ; and I have to express to your Excellency the approval of Her Majesty's Government, of your having induced the Porte to issue orders to the Pasha of Tripoli, directing him to prevent the Slave Trade between his Government and the Island of Candia.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Candia*.

No. 589.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received February 12.*)

My Lord,

Canea in Crete, January 5, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit inclosed, a copy of a despatch which I addressed to his Excellency the Ambassador at Constantinople under yesterday's date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

Inclosure in No. 589.

Consul Ongley to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

(Extract.)

Canea in Crete, January 4, 1855.

THE Traffic in Slaves from Georgia and Circassia is little felt here, but there is a good deal of it between this and Barbary, in slaves the natives of Africa; it is to be hoped that the time may soon come when the Turkish Government may be induced to put a stop to this infamous Trade.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Egypt*.

No. 590.

Consul-General Bruce to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 16.)

My Lord,

Cairo, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, a copy of a despatch with its inclosure, which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople relative to the encouragement given to Slave Trade by the Governor of Massowah, in direct violation of the instructions he appears to have received from the Porte.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 590.

Consul-General Bruce to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Cairo, June 27, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed, an extract of a letter which I have received from Mr. Barroni, giving an account of the conduct of the Governor of Massowah, Ibrahim Pasha, on receipt of the Vizirial letter forbidding the Traffic in Slaves carried on between Massowah and Jeddah.

Should your Lordship be of opinion that the presence of a Consular Agent at Massawah would be of use in checking the proceedings detailed in the accompanying letter, I may state that the writer bears the character of a respectable and trustworthy man. He is employed as a confidential agent of Mr. Plowden, Her Majesty's Consul in Abyssinia, and he would gladly serve as Vice-Consul without salary on account of the protection he would derive from being invested with that character.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 590.

M. Barroni to Consul-General Bruce.

(Extract.)

JE me crois en devoir de vous notifier qu'une lettre du Vizir envoyée, il y a quatre mois à peu près, à Ibrahim Pacha, Gouverneur de Massowah, était conçue dans les termes suivants :—

Nous avons su que des Chrétiens et Chrétiennes volées dans le territoire d'Abyssinie, et plus souvent dans les Provinces de Menza, Codefalasse, Dembigian, et Habbab, sont achetés, vendus et envoyés à Jeddah par les négociants de Massowah, et que votre Gouvernement ne se soucie pas de cela. Eh bien ! nous

vous prions cependant de ne pas permettre ce commerce parceque cela nous fait des ennemis et nous ôte la réputation, et nous voulons nous flatter que vous voudrez bien suivre notre avis.

Le Pacha a lu cette lettre à son Divan après avoir fait appeler à cet effet tous les gens et les personnes les plus respectables de Massowah, et il ajouta : "Sans doute que les Franks ont écrit à Constantinople là-dessus," et après l'approbation de l'Auditoire plusieurs répondirent : "Cette lettre n'est que la conséquence de ce que les Anglais ont peut-être écrit à cet égard, et il n'y a ici que le Consul Anglais et son 'Vekil' qui peuvent et veulent faire cela."

Dans le même jour, on a vendu à Massowah même, plusieurs filles et enfants volés dans les pays des Habbab.

Je crois inutile de dire que les Turques n'empêcheront jamais cet esclavage, et par intérêt et par principe de religion ; que des lettres adressées aux Gouverneurs ne seront que des mots pour eux ; que des ordres pour les mêmes seront insuffisants, inutiles, et peut-être invisibles ; et qu'il n'y a que la force qui pourra et peut mettre fin à un commerce si honteux et si inhumain.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) R. BARRONI.

No. 591.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 25, 1845.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 30th of June, I have to inform you that I approve your having communicated with Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, on the subject of the proceedings of the Governor of Massowah as regards Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 592.

Consul-General Bruce to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 27.)

My Lord,

Cairo, January 17, 1855.

THE Viceroy of Egypt has instructed the Governors of the Southern Provinces to prevent in future the introduction of slaves from Abyssinia, Dongola, &c., into Egypt across the southern frontier.

He has further given directions that in case of slaves being clandestinely introduced they shall be considered entitled to claim their freedom, and be restored, whenever possible, to their country and friends.

Some time must elapse before I shall be able to ascertain whether any measures have been taken to carry successfully into execution orders which from their nature will certainly not meet with the hearty cooperation of the provincial authorities. Black slaves and black eunuchs form an essential part of the establishment of every rich Turk, and as they are supplied exclusively from the regions that border the Upper Nile, every attempt will be made to render inoperative the measures taken by Saïd Pasha for the abolition of the Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

No. 593.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Bruce.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 31, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 17th of January, stating that the Viceroy of Egypt has prohibited the importation of slaves into Egypt across the southern frontier, and that he has directed that any slaves clandestinely introduced into the country under his rule shall be entitled to claim their freedom.

And I have to instruct you to inform the Viceroy that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with great satisfaction that his Highness has issued these humane and benevolent orders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Erzeroom.*

No. 594.

Consul Brant to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 22.)

My Lord,

Erzeroom, February 19, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch I addressed to his Excellency Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, with regard to the slave question, accompanied by the inclosures therein referred to.

I think the measure can be carried out, if proper authority and instructions be furnished me, and I would recommend that a firman addressed to the Valy Pasha here, were sent me authorizing my interference, and desiring his Excellency to admit of my concurrence in carrying out the wishes of the Sultan.

I have, &c
(Signed) JAS. BRANT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 594.

Consul Brant to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Erzeroom, February 19, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency, that having been informed by Mr. J. Zohrab, interpreter to General Williams' Aide-de-camp at Kars, that there were slaves there being offered for sale, I addressed a letter to the Valy Surri Pasha, requiring him to seize the said slaves, and send them to the Commander-in-chief of the Georgian frontier, Prince Bebutoff, taking from his Excellency a receipt on delivery, and I requested General Williams to desire his Aide-de-camp to see that the Pasha did as I required. Major Teesdale replied that Surri Pasha had in his possession six slaves, and he was searching for some more he had heard of to send them all at once to Prince Bebutoff.

I inclose copies of my letters to the Pashas of Erzeroom and Kars, and the answer of the latter.

With respect to the examination of the slaves, I regard them as of no value, no excuse such as having become Mussulman, or a desire to remain in Turkey must be admitted, or nothing will be effected.

I beg also to inform your Excellency that I have learned that there are about ten slaves here in the hands of various parties; some of the slaves have been purchased, one or two years ago; some more recently; I do not know how I can act on such information without instructions. I must know, whether the firmans are to have a retroactive effect, or from what period they are to be considered as having come into operation.

I beg to observe they have never been published at Kars, or here, as your Excellency will perceive with respect to Kars, from Surri Pasha's reply, and with respect to this place, from what the Valy Pasha said to me.

I think that where slaves are found, the owners should be forced to deliver them up without indemnity, and where the sellers can be discovered,

they should refund the purchase-money. This might be kept as a fund to remunerate informers and meet expenses of clothing and sending the liberated slaves to the Russian authorities. Perhaps this might be sufficient to stop the Traffic; but if additional punishments were inflicted, it might prevent denunciations.

A specific punishment should be fixed, if any be intended, and it should not be left to the discretion of a Pasha to decide what penalty should be inflicted.

Expense is necessary to carry out the measures of returning the slaves to Georgia, and it is for your Excellency to instruct me from whence it is to be obtained, if the suggestions thrown out above should not produce what is requisite.

Until I receive your Excellency's orders, I shall not take steps with regard to slaves here, but if I hear of any others at Kars, I shall again require Surri Pasha to seize them and send them back.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. BRANT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 594.

Consul Brant to the Governor of Erzeroom.

Excellency,

Erzeroom, January 29, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an open letter to his Excellency the Vally of Kars, requesting your Excellency to transmit it to him. As I communicated to your Excellency the Sultan's firman, prohibiting the sale of Georgian slaves, I trust that you will use your endeavours to induce Surri Pasha to comply with my demand.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. BRANT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 594.

Consul Brant to the Governor of Kars.

Excellency,

Erzeroom, January 29, 1855.

I HAVE been informed, that there have lately been brought from Georgia to Kars 2 boys and 2 girls, who are now being offered for sale in that town. As you must be aware that a Trade in Georgian slaves is prohibited by His Majesty the Sultan, I call upon you to seize them in whosoever hands they may have fallen, and return them to the Russian authorities at Gumri. I have requested General Williams, C.B., to desire his Aide-de-camp to witness that this is done. I shall transmit a copy of this letter to his Excellency the British Ambassador at Constantinople, with your answer, and I trust that you will yield a ready obedience to your Sovereign's orders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAS. BRANT.

Inclosure 4 in No. 594.

The Governor of Kars to Consul Brant.

(Translation.)

16th Jemazi-ul-evvel, 1271
3rd February, 1855.

I HAVE received and understood the letter you addressed me respecting 2 boys and 2 girls who were brought as slaves from Georgia to Kars, and sold there; and you inform me, that such a proceeding being contrary to the wishes of the Sublime Porte, the slaves in question must be taken from whomsoever possesses them, and be given up to the Russian authorities at Gumri. I lately heard of this Imperial order on this subject, and though, up to this time it has not reached me, still, the union which, under the present warlike events, exists,

thank God, with the two Governments (of England and France), and the unanimity of their resolutions in similar matters, have already been printed and published ; and though I am yet ignorant of the order in question, it suffices for me to know, that one of the three parties is cognizant with the decision. As soon, therefore, as your letter respecting these boys and girls reached me, I immediately had them found, and sent to the house of the Mufti of the place, to be kept there for the present. One of the boys, however, wishes to enter the army, and, with regard to the others, I inclose the interrogatories put to them by the Council (and their answers). Although the imperial order in question has not been sent to me, it would appear the Valy of Erzeroom, and you, also, have received it ; and in order that nothing at variance with the decisions of the Sublime Porte with her true allies should occur, I have consequently conformed to your wishes.

Questions put to the elder boy.

Whence are you from ?—From Djajikh.

What is your father ?—An agricultural labourer.

How, and by whom were you taken ?—A person stole me from my country, took me to Shefketil, and there sold me to the Bey of Tchoorooksoo, Aly Bey.

Do you wish to return to your country ? We will send you there.—I have become a Mussulman ; I will not return to my country, and I wish to be enlisted in the army.

Questions put to the younger boy.

Whence are you from ?—From Lazyanta.

Have you a father and mother in your country ?—No, I have not ; I am an orphan.

We will send you back to your country. —I will not go. .

Questions put to the girl taken by the Bokhara man.

Whence are you from ?—From the neighbourhood of Uzuaghet.

Have you a father and mother ?—Yes, I have.

Were you stolen, or did your father give you away ?—I am from the village of Kedeh ; a man stole me.

What is your father's name and profession ?—Elmas Khan, a trooper.

Will you return to your country ? The Sultan pardons you, and hereafter you will no longer be a slave.—No, I have become a Mussulman ; I say my prayers, and I do not wish to return to my country. .

Questions put to the girl who lived with the above girl.

Whence are you from ?—As I was a child (when stolen) I know not whence I am from.

With whom did you reside ?—For the last five years I have been with the Bey of Tchoorooksoo, Aly Bey. I have become a Mussulman, and I will not go anywhere.

No. 595.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Brant.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 24, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th ultimo, with its inclosures, reporting the steps which you had taken to procure the restoration to freedom some of Georgian slaves who were being offered for sale at Kars, and I have in reply to inform you, that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 596.

Brigadier-General Williams to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Erzeroom, February 6, 1855.

THE commands laid down in your Lordship's instructions with regard to the forwarding to the Foreign Office of such information, bearing on the political and social state of those remote regions, as I should deem of sufficient interest, induce me to offer, for your Lordship's consideration, the following remarks on a subject which must, in all probability, and at no distant day too, form a matter of grave discussion between Great Britain and the Porte.

After a conversation which I had last week with Ismaïl Pasha, the Governor-General, on the affairs of this army, he broached, to my surprise, the subject of slavery, and told me that he had heard of some recent purchases of that nature in this city, the particulars of which he was endeavouring to ascertain; that he also knew of four instances of the sale of Georgian slaves at Kars, and begged me to write to my Aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Teesdale, and request him to make every inquiry as to the houses in which those females were concealed. I promised to meet his wishes, and consequently, by the next estafette, I instructed my Aide-de-camp to gain the necessary information.

This move, on the part of Ismaïl Pasha, was, I believe, caused by a very recent conversation he had had with the Dragoman of the English Consulate; but the buying and selling of slaves, by the officers of the Kars army, is as notorious as any other mal-practices on their part. Boys are preferred by these brutes, and the girls are sent as bribes to Constantinople, and until the allied Consuls are authorized to demand the restitution of these victims to Turkish sensuality, and are provided with funds to send them back to their families in Georgia, and until the Porte is bound by Treaty to send the culprits, so detected, to the galleys for a certain specified time, this infamous Traffic will flourish, and all which has been said or may be written about abolitionary firmans simply adds mockery to crime and woe.

When I saw Mustapha Pasha quit the camp at Kars, and fawn upon the soldiers drawn out in line to salute him who had robbed and starved them, he was closely followed, and that at noon-day, by two Georgian slaves under an escort of Regular Cavalry. They had been bought the day previous to his departure, and this Traffic was notorious throughout the camp. Your Lordship may therefore infer, that had the Turks penetrated into Georgia last campaign, very few youths of either sex would have escaped pollution; and I feel bound to tell your Lordship my opinion on this most interesting subject, which is, that if England does not effectually repress this Trade by a stringent Treaty, Russia will accomplish it by her arms, that is, if peace leave her in possession of Georgia.

Pertinacious resistance on the part of the Turks must be expected, not only in this point, but in all others connected with reform. I ordered the arrest of an officer yesterday for entering a Christian banker's office, calling him a *giaour*, and other gross epithets, and for reviling my own Mussulman servant, who attempted to protect the Christian from such unprovoked insults. The utmost firmness must therefore be evinced here on the spot, as well as on the part of the allies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. WILLIAMS.

UNITED STATES.

No. 597.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 18.)

My Lord,

Washington, March 12, 1854.

YESTERDAY evening I had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 24th ultimo,* and in obedience to the instruction contained therein, I shall take an early opportunity to express to the Government of the United States the satisfaction felt by Her Majesty's Government at the capture of the American slaver "*H. N. Gambril*," and to suggest to the Secretary of State of the United States, the expediency of some measures being adopted in order to put a stop to the abuse of the British and American flags committed by the slavers on being chased by the cruisers of those two nations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 598.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 18.)

(Extract.)

Washington, March 31, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I immediately instructed Her Majesty's Consul at New York to watch the proceedings of the person named Joaquim Gaspard de Motta, suspected of being in connection with the Brazilian and Portuguese Slave Trade Association, and of having transferred large sums of money from Cuba to New York, whither he was about to proceed immediately, for the purpose, it was supposed, of purchasing in the United States vessels suitable for carrying out the plans of the above-mentioned Association.

I have the honour to inclose, in copy, my letter to Mr. Consul Barclay and likewise his reply to me, stating that he will give his particular attention to this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 699.

Inclosure 1 in No. 598.

Mr. Crampton to Consul Barclay.

Sir,

Washington, March 29, 1854.

THE Earl of Clarendon having called my attention to the circumstances under which a person named Joaquim Gaspard de Motta, suspected of being in connection with the Brazilian and Portuguese Slave Trade Association, has lately arrived in Cuba, and moreover to the fact that he had been transferring large sums of money to New York, whither he was about to proceed immediately, for the purpose, it was suspected, of purchasing in the United States vessels suitable for carrying out the plans of the above-mentioned Association, I have to instruct you to cause the proceedings of the above-named person, upon his arrival at New York, to be watched, as far as may be practicable.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 598.

Consul Barclay to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

New York, March 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 29th instant, calling my attention to the circumstances under which a person named Joaquim Gaspard de Motta, suspected of being in connection with the Brazilian and Portuguese Slave Trading Association, is about to proceed to New York from the Island of Cuba, and instructing me, when the said De Motta has arrived, to cause his movements to be watched as far as practicable. In accordance with these instructions I shall give my particular attention to all the arrivals from Cuba, and as soon as I shall have been able to ascertain, if practicable, this person's proceedings, I shall report to you thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANTHONY BARCLAY.

No. 599.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 21, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st ultimo, reporting the steps which you had taken, in compliance with the instructions contained in my despatch to you of the 6th ultimo, to cause a watch to be kept on the proceedings of the suspected slave-trader Joaquim Gaspard de Motta, upon his arrival in the United States; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 600.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 25.)

My Lord,

Washington, April 10, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th ultimo, and to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, I have now the honour to transmit to

your Lordship herewith, in copy, a further letter from Mr. Consul Barclay, relative to M. Joaquim Gaspard de Motta, suspected of being engaged in slave-dealing speculations, and who, he has ascertained, is at present at New York.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 600.

Consul Barclay to Mr. Crampton.

(Extract.)

New York, April 5, 1854.

IN connection with my despatch of the 31st March, in reply to your communication of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the person you mention therein has been in New York for the last three or four weeks; that he resides in Broom Street, at the French and Spanish hotel, kept by Mrs. Moudon; and that there is a slight inaccuracy in his name as you have given it to me, the "l" being a "t" in his surname. He is said to have expressed the intention of leaving for England: when he does so I shall inform you of it, and meanwhile endeavour to obtain further intelligence of his proceedings.

No. 601.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 1.)

My Lord,

Washington, April 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a message from the President of the United States, communicating to Congress, in compliance with a resolution of the Senate, the correspondence between Mr. Schenck, United States' Minister at Rio de Janeiro, and the Secretary of State, in relation to the African Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 601.

Message from the President of the United States, communicating, in compliance with a Resolution of the Senate, the Correspondence between Mr. Schenck, United States' Minister at Brazil, and the Secretary of State, in relation to the African Slave Trade.

To the Senate of the United States.

I TRANSMIT herewith a report from the Secretary of State, and the documents therein referred to, in answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 26th March, 1853.

(Signed) FRANKLIN PIERCE.

Washington, March 7, 1854.

Department of State, Washington, March 7, 1854.

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred the resolution of the Senate of the 26th of March, 1853, requesting the President, "if compatible with the public interest, to communicate to the Senate the correspondence

between the Honourable R. C. Schenck, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States in Brazil, and the Secretary of State," has the honour to lay before the President the documents referred to in the subjoined list.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) W. L. MARCY.

To the President of the United States.

List of Documents transmitted.

Mr. Webster to Mr. Schenck (extract), May 8, 1851.
Mr. Schenck to Mr. Webster (with inclosures), April 26, 1852.
Same to Mr. Everett (extract), January 14, 1853.
Same to same (with inclosures), February 5, 1853.

No. 2.

Mr. Webster to Mr. Schenck.

(Extract.) *Department of State, Washington, May 8, 1851.*

It is understood that the Brazilian Government has recently been active in the execution of its own laws for the suppression of the African Slave Trade. If it shall persevere in this, it may not be necessary for you to take any steps with a view to carrying into effect the IXth Article of the Treaty of Washington, of the 9th of August, 1842. If, however, during your mission an occasion should arise for the remonstrances to which that Article refers, you will address them orally, or in writing to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

No. 24.

Mr. Schenck to Mr. Webster.

*Legation of the United States,
Rio de Janeiro, April 26, 1852.*

Sir,

I desire to call your particular attention to the subject of the Slave Trade between Brazil and the coast of Africa. This infamous and inhuman Traffic, thanks principally, I must say, to the vigilance of British cruisers, and the disposition manifested and measures taken by the Ministers of State composing the Administration now in power in this Government, has seemed for a period of a year or more to be nearly, if not altogether, suppressed and stopped. But there are many indications of its revival; and I grieve to have to inform you that, in the present condition of things, no flag is more likely to be prostituted to the vile use of protecting those engaged in the business than our own.

Without aid from any force of the United States, the secret depôts of "slave goods" along this coast have been discovered and broken up; the traders, or those concerned, have many of them been prosecuted and imprisoned, or driven from the country; and thus their unlawful voyages have been prevented. Whatever the motives which may have actuated either the British or the Imperial Government—whether of selfish policy or pure philanthropy—their course and its results are such as I have represented, and they are entitled to credit accordingly.

But a reaction has evidently taken place, not in the efforts of these Powers and authorities to suppress the Trade. I do not mean to say that they have relaxed, in any respect, their vigilance or activity; but the first panic of the slave-dealers that remain being passed, they have had time to look around them, to see and devise means for entering with more security into their old business;

and the very success which has attended, for a time, the efforts to stop it, has furnished an additional stimulus to its renewal. Under the influence of the difficulties thrown in the way of the importation of fresh supplies of slaves, the price of them has been doubled of late in this market, and a single cargo successfully landed and sold now would make the fortune of the adventurer.

Now I am sorry to say that in this state of affairs, nothing seems to occur to these miscreants, who would commerce in human flesh, more likely to serve their purposes than the use, or rather the abuse, to that end of the American flag. It alone gives privilege and immunity from visitation and search, when on the high seas, against all pursuers but the commissioned naval police of our own country. And while the United States have no sufficient armed force for an effective watch along the African coast, from whence the poor victims of the slave-dealers are to be stolen, we have still less of a guard set upon the approach to this shore, where a market for the contraband cargoes is to be found. I do not doubt either the vigilance or good will of the naval commanders who are on this service, on either station, to do all that the means entrusted to them will possibly enable them to accomplish. I am sure of the activity and zeal with which the officers and men in our national ships are disposed to perform their duty in helping to suppress the wicked Trade. But what can they do? And, especially, what can they do on this Brazil station, where, for many months past, our whole squadron has consisted of but two vessels, and those so large and of such draft as to be the worst possible adapted to this preventive service. Since the brig "Bainbridge" was detached from Commodore McKeever's command, there have remained only his flag-ship the frigate "Congress," and the first-class sloop "Jamestown." During the late disturbed and unsettled condition of affairs at the River Plate, it was wisely judged necessary to keep both of them in that quarter; and thus for a long period we have had no naval force whatever anywhere along the whole line of Brazilian coast. The "Congress" and "Jamestown" are now, I believe, out cruising; but if they were here, they could do little in any emergency such as I am adverting to, without, at least, the cooperating aid of one or more smaller vessels. To catch a slaver on the coast, or even to find one, requires, not large ships of deep draft and heavy armament, but those which can safely and therefore fearlessly follow close in-shore, and run behind islands and into creeks, coves, and inlets, where the fast-sailing piratical craft goes to take in her stores, to land her unlawful cargo, or to escape observation or pursuit. For these purposes it is obvious that one small steamer, like the several which the English Government has been keeping constantly in active service on this station, of not more than nine or ten feet draft, and armed with a single long pivot gun, would be worth a whole fleet of ships of the line, frigates, or sloops, with batteries of the heaviest metal. Will it ever be possible to persuade our Government at home, or the Navy Department of this? I find by the records of this Legation, that my predecessors have again, and again, and again besought to have one or more such war-steamers sent out here; but in vain. I repeat now, however, and most urgently, the request, and I entreat that it may be brought to the attention of the Secretary of the Navy.

I have said that the slave-dealers are, at this immediate time, disposed to avail themselves of the advantage which these circumstances give to their use of the flag of the United States. None understand better than they do how little power or preparation there is here, on the part of our Government, for defeating or intercepting their enterprises. Within the last two weeks, two American fast-sailing brigs have been fitted out and sailed from this port, cleared and freighted for the coast of Africa. There was every reason to believe, from the quality and assortment of goods taken by them, and from other suspicious facts, that their object was to trade for slaves; but there was no positive evidence. Our excellent Consul did all he could, and he and I counselled together to devise some pretext for breaking up their voyages; but after all delays which could be lawfully interposed, both vessels have gone. If there had been a man-of-war in the harbour, they might have been followed and searched outside; but that would not have afforded proofs on which to seize them with any prospect, under our existing laws, of their condemnation by the Courts at home. While the last one of these vessels was yet in the harbour, and subject to the jurisdiction of the local police, she was visited and searched by order of the Minister of Justice, but without finding anything that would justify detaining her, being an American vessel. Her cargo of goods and stores, adapted to the African Slave Trade,

would perhaps have led to her seizure if she had been an English or Brazilian ship, under the provisions of the Treaty between those two nations. To show, however, her probable character, I may mention that a subsequent search of the houses of the two Brazilian traders whose names were found in the charter-party, resulted in such discoveries that they were arrested, and are now in prison.

The Consul will probably give you a fuller and more detailed statement in regard to these particular vessels. I only refer to the cases as both illustration and occasion for what I have said generally on the subject.

The copies of my correspondence with the Consul and with Commodore McKeever, which I inclose (marked A 24, B 24, and C 24), will show that I was on the look-out on another occasion, some months ago, for one of these piratical expeditions, projected by an American. In answer to the application which you will observe I made then, the "Jamestown" was promptly sent up from Buenos Ayres, and remained in waiting here some time to intercept the expected slaver. But the voyage in that instance, in consequence of what occurred in New York, as I afterwards ascertained, to interrupt the preparation, was abandoned. The provisions and stores provided for the expedition were also found by one of the British cruisers (a small steamer) concealed on an uninhabited island near St. Catharine's, and destroyed. Miller, though, the infamous wretch who was at the head of it, and whose arrest in the United States Mr. Todd had previously advised on the depositions he had forwarded to your Department, I am informed has since been in the city, no doubt concocting new and similar schemes.

From other points on this coast I hear also rumours and suspicions of preparation for renewing the infernal Traffic.

We are proudly and justly jealous of our flag, and of the national rights which it represents. We will not permit our ships to be visited and questioned in their goings and coming upon the ocean. Are we not under all the greater obligations, therefore, to see to it ourselves, that that proud flag, and the ships which it covers and protects, are not desecrated by prostitution to horrible and cruel uses? What are the remedies or means of prevention? They have been often discussed; but permit me to suggest what appear to me the most obvious, and as far as I can see, the only efficient. If I repeat some things which have been advised and urged by my predecessors at this Court (and particularly by Mr. Wise and Mr. Todd), I beg leave to submit that such concurrence of views, after opportunities of information, should only serve to give greater weight and consideration to our united testimony and conclusions.

1. All direct trade in the vessels of the United States, between Brazil and the western coast of Africa, ought to be prohibited by Act of Congress. Then no regular clearances or ships' papers could be obtained, as if for honest voyages, to serve as a cover for the transfer of vessels to be used as slavers, after their arrival on the African coast. This prohibition, I admit, would be a strong measure; but none too strong, when it is considered that there is no really honest trade, or next to none, between these two coasts—none but what is in some way directly or indirectly connected with the commerce in slaves, or subject to be perverted into that channel. Lately, for example, a good many horses and cattle have been imported from the Cape of Good Hope to Rio de Janeiro. But the slave-dealers are getting hold of that idea; and under the pretence of having to take in cargoes of brute beasts, find a pretext for providing themselves with an unusual supply of water, farina, meal, and other stores suited for their intended human freight. They may even—the better to hide their true object—take on board a few horses or cattle, and then, after clearing for Brazil, proceed securely up the coast on the other side, until they can find an opportunity for tumbling the less valuable animals overboard, to take bipeds in their place, and sail away with all the speed they can make, to some secret and unwatched harbour on this coast. A total prohibition of trade between the two coasts would strike at the root of the mischief; and admitting that it interfered with some little present lawful trade, the good to be accomplished would far outweigh any trifling advantage, individual or national, to be derived from that; and there are other free fields enough—all the wide world and its oceans over—for the exercise of honest and harmless American commercial enterprise. If thought most advisable, the Act of Prohibition might be limited, for experiment, to a term of years.

2. If trade between Brazil and the coast of Africa were not entirely prohibited, the exportation from this country thither, of certain classes, or specified articles of merchandise, suited only or principally to be used in the Traffic for Slaves, might be forbidden as unlawful. The cargoes, for example, taken from this port a few days ago, in the two brigs I have referred to, were made up in great part of pieces of scarlet cloth, rude musical instruments, knives, common guns and gunpowder, designed, no doubt, for that sort of barter with the natives. Still I would not rely much on such partial restriction; and, moreover, it would be liable to serious objections. The articles prohibited might be sent through other channels, and not directly from this country; and it would not do to exclude them entirely from the coast in American bottoms, because, although used in the Trade for Slaves, the same goods are also exchanged for palm oil, dye woods, ivory, gold dust, and other African productions intended for other markets.

3. Another and more effective means for preventing the abuse of our flag would be an enactment prohibiting the granting of consular sea-letters to American vessels sold on this coast, or on the coast of Africa, for any other purpose than to authorize them to make the voyage home. It might be well indeed, to declare all such sales, except under certain specified conditions, fraudulent and void. This would help to put an end to all the sham transfers by which vessels are supplied to the slave importers, and would prevent also those actual purchases by foreigners in the assumed character of citizens of the United States, by which they secure to themselves, along with the property bought, the more important and valuable privilege of sailing still under American colours. Let such a law as this be made, and the perjuries which they can now always command to establish their citizenship and usual residence would avail them nothing.

4. But if none of these new legislative enactments are made to break up altogether, or restrict the trade in American bottoms between the two coasts, and the Government still relies upon mere physical force to compel an observance of the existing laws, or to bring the violators to justice, then by all means strengthen the power and efficiency of that force. I have already alluded to the absolute necessity of having at least one small war steamer constantly on this station. There ought, indeed, to be two or three attached to the squadron. But when our naval ships search and would seize a slaver, they have little encouragement to incur the responsibility. A commander is hardly justified in the risk of seizing and detaining one as a prize, unless slaves are found actually on board; and it is too well known that, adding murder to man-stealing, slave captains, when closely pursued and in fear of capture, have not hesitated to throw the wretched objects of their commerce into the sea, and thus destroy the only manifest proof of their guilt. To meet this difficulty, certain marks and circumstances should be made *prima facie* evidence of the unlawful character of the vessel and voyage. Let it be the law that a vessel found within certain latitudes between the two coasts, having as part of her equipment certain specified articles, such as shackles or manacles, spare planks suitable for fitting a slave-deck, or an extraordinary quantity of water, or provisions of the [kind used to feed and subsist a slave cargo, shall be subject to seizure, and shall be condemned, unless satisfactory proof be furnished on the part of the master or owner that she was engaged in a lawful employment. The specifications and clauses to this effect incorporated in the several Treaties made by Great Britain with Spain in 1835, and with other Powers at other times, might be consulted with advantage in the framing of an Act.

But enough. I have extended this communication quite beyond anything I designed when I began. But I am exceedingly anxious to attract to it your earnest consideration, and to obtain for its consideration, at this particular time for the reasons I have mentioned, not only your own wise and sagacious powers of mind and statesmanship, but the influence of the President and his administration, and, if possible, the action of Congress before the close of the present session.

Something must be done, beyond what is now provided for, if we would have it believed abroad that our Government is really sincere in its desire for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and that our people mean what they say when they are accustomed to denounce it as piracy and a vile and unholy Traffic. And, what is of far higher concern than the opinions of men, some more active

and energetic measures must be taken, if we would clear our skirts as a nation, and acquit ourselves, as we better might, of the obligations we owe to God and the cause of humanity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT C. SCHENCK.

Hon. Daniel Webster,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

Papers accompanying this Despatch.

1. A 24, Mr. Schenck to Commodore Mc Keever, September 4, 1851.
2. B 24, Commodore Mc Keever to Mr. Schenck, October 1851.
3. C 24, Mr. Schenck, Confidential, to Consul Kent, October 10, 1851.

A 24.

Sir,

*Legation of the United States,
Rio de Janeiro, September 4, 1851.*

I am in possession of information, confidentially communicated to me by his Excellency the British Minister at this Court, that a vessel, destined for the Slave Trade, and abusing, for her protection, the flag of our country, is expected to arrive at this port from the United States about the middle of next month. She was to sail about the end of August, and will have on board as master a notorious slave-trader, against whom much evidence is already on file at this Legation. The proofs of her coming, and of her character and object, are too full to be doubted.

It is necessary that this vessel should be closely watched on her arrival here; and it may be that sufficient cause will be found to justify following and seizing her when she leaves this harbour to proceed upon her unlawful voyage. I deem it exceedingly important, therefore, and request that you will hasten your intended return, so as to be here before the time indicated for her arrival.

The "Susquehanna" expecting to complete her repairs, and sail before the end of this month, unless you come with the "Congress," or send some other vessel of your squadron, there will be no American man-of-war in this harbour at a time when the aid and services of one may be most needed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT C. SCHENCK.

Commodore Isaac Mc Keever,
Commanding United States' Squadron, Coast of Brazil.

B 24.

Sir,

Buenos Ayres, October 1851.

Your communication of the 29th August has been received, inclosing copies of correspondence between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Legation, in reference to an alleged violation of a port regulation, by the United States' ship "Jamestown."

I have taken such measures as will prevent a recurrence of the matter complained of.

I have also received your communication of the 4th ultimo, conveying the intelligence, transmitted by his Excellency the British Minister at Rio de Janeiro, that a vessel, destined for the Slave Trade, and abusing for her protection the flag of our country, is expected to arrive at that port about the middle of the present month, and requesting the presence of one of our vessels of war, in order to take such measures as may prevent the prosecution of her unlawful voyage.

It was my intention, at first, to have proceeded myself upon this service, but the peculiar condition of affairs here has decided me to detail the "Jamestown" for the duty in question, and I have directed Captain Downing to consult with you in reference to the best means of effecting the proposed object.

With many thanks for the prompt manner in which you have communicated this intelligence, and with the hope that our efforts to prevent the abuse of our flag may be successful, I have, &c.

(Signed) I. McKEEVER,

Commanding United States' Naval Forces, Brazil Station.

His Excellency Robert C. Schenck,

Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States.

C 24.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Legation of the United States,

Rio de Janeiro, October 10, 1851.

I have had information since about the 1st of last month, that a brigantine called the "*John Adams*," carrying the American flag, and with American papers, but destined for the Slave Trade, would arrive in this port from New York about the 15th of this month. Aboard of her will be coming, as owner or master, that notorious slave-trader, B. Miller, of whose sinings in that way, heretofore, there is already evidence on file in your Consulate and at this Legation. The proofs I have of his present contemplated cruize have been obtained through Mr. Hudson, the British Minister at this Court, by intercepted letters, and revelations made by some of the accomplices, and are too clear to be doubted.

I have mentioned the case to you before. My object in writing at this moment is simply to remind you that the time is approaching near when we may expect the arrival of the vessel, and when a close watch, if such a craft does appear in this harbour, must be kept upon her movements, in order to discover anything that may lead to the detection of her true character, and her seizure in that case, if it be possible.

I have notified Commodore McKeever, at Monte Video, that the services of a vessel of his squadron may be needed to watch her motions, and, if good reason appears, to follow her to sea; I am daily expecting his arrival, with the frigate "*Congress*."

I know that you will cooperate most heartily in all that can be done, in order to bring to justice this scoundrel Miller, or any concerned with him, in his wicked attempt to prostitute the flag of our country. I rely upon you, therefore, to use the opportunities of your office to get the earliest information, and the most authentic, of the coming of such a brigantine into this port: whether Miller is aboard of her or not, and what character she assumes, and what papers she exhibits on her arrival.

Let us catch and punish the wretch and his associates, if it can possibly be done. I think we may now, perhaps, have such an opportunity.

I will call at your office, in the city, to-morrow, and give you some further particulars. In the meantime, I am, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT C. SCHENCK.

Edward Kent, Esq.,

United States' Consul, Rio de Janeiro.

No. 43.

Mr. Schenck to Mr. Everett.

Legation of the United States,

Rio de Janeiro, January 14, 1853.

(Extract.)

Permit me, also, at this time, to refer you to my No. 24, suggesting the necessity of some further legislation by Congress, or the sending of a different sort of naval force to this station, to aid more effectually the suppression of the Slave Trade. That despatch, probably, was not brought to the notice of the President, or of the Secretary of the Navy. I shall report to you, in a few days,

an instance of flagrant disgrace to our flag, by being employed in that Traffic, which has recently been detected here, under precisely the circumstances of which I then gave warning.

No. 45.

Mr. Schenck to Mr. Everett.

*Legation of the United States,
Rio de Janeiro, February 5, 1853.*

(Extract.)

In my despatch No. 43, I made allusion to a recent act of slave piracy committed by an American on this coast. I proceed now to give some more distinct explanation and statement of the transaction.

In my No. 24, on the 26th of last April, I made certain observations and suggestions in regard to the African Slave Trade, and expressed my fears that the abomination was about to be actively renewed, under the protection and to the disgrace of our flag. I mentioned, as the immediate occasion for my writing on the subject at that time, that two American brigs had left this port under suspicious circumstances, intending, I had no doubt, to make slave voyages; although, under the existing laws, neither the Consul of the United States nor I had any power to detain them, or means to intercept and defeat their nefarious purpose. I was not mistaken. Those apprehensions have been realised.

One of the vessels indicated, by the accidents of navigation on the African coast, as has since been ascertained, was prevented from getting her human cargo, and has returned to the United States. The other, the "*Camargo*," American (I think from Portland, Maine), with American flag, captain, and crew, arrived on this coast again a few weeks ago, with 500 blacks on board, whom she succeeded, by concert with persons on shore, in running in and landing at Bracuhy, a little, unfrequented port, a few leagues from this city. To avoid pursuit and detection, the brig was then burnt to the water's edge, and the hull scuttled and sunk; her captain (named Gordon) and his sailors scattering through the country and escaping. The negroes were hurried up into the mountains. About 50 of them have been found, and are in charge of the Brazilian authorities. Four of the sailors have been arrested, and are now in prison here awaiting their trial. So also is Mr. George Marsden, a native and citizen of the United States, a resident in this city, who had been consignee of the "*Camargo*" when she was here in April. Captain Gordon has eluded pursuit, and got away, it is understood, to Monte Video, whence he has probably gone to the United States.

Perhaps I may hereafter obtain testimony upon which these villains can be prosecuted at home; or may, possibly, make an arrangement with the Imperial authorities, for sending two of the guilty seamen in person, to be used as State's evidence in our court, for the indictment and conviction of Gordon. Mr. Consul Kent, who has probably made report to you of the transaction, will render me in this every possible assistance.

Immediately after hearing of the occurrence, I addressed myself to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, asking him to procure for me such information and proofs as this Government might be able to furnish, implicating citizens of the United States.

Inclosed are copies of my note, and the reply to it, which I have just received (A 45 and B 45).

I send a copy of one of the newspapers of this city, the "*Correio Mercantil*" of the 31st December, containing an article about this affair. I inclose also a translation of the same. The editor's comments upon the relation of the United States to the matter are severe; but in the main, alas! too just and true. Our flag, as I have explained formerly, is the one particularly chosen by these pirates and man-traders for disguise; and I fear that unless something more effectual be enacted and done by Congress and the Executive, we must expect to see the instances of crime under its protection soon and often repeated.

But I have nothing to add now to what I urged so much at length in my despatch of April. I give this present account of an outrage actually committed as the best possible evidence that the suspicions and apprehensions I then expressed were not entertained without good reason.

No. 82.—A 45.

*Legation of the United States,
Rio de Janeiro, December 31, 1852.*

The Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, has read with much regret certain publications in the public journals of this city, from which it would appear that a cargo of blacks from Africa has been landed, within a few days past, at some point on the coast of this empire, and carried under the protection of an unlawful and armed force into the interior, to be held as slaves.

And it is a source of still deeper chagrin to see it reported that this success of those engaged in the infamous Traffic, has been accomplished under the flag of the United States.

Desiring to do whatever may be possible to aid in the prevention or punishment of such offences, and particularly if committed by American citizens, desecrating, for that purpose, their national ensign, the Undersigned addresses himself now to his Excellency Paulino José Soares de Souza, of the Council of His Majesty the Emperor, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with a request to be furnished with whatever official or unofficial statements or proofs may be in possession of his Excellency in relation to this occurrence, and tending to show that any vessel or citizen of the United States has been thus detestably employed.

Such information, if it cannot be availed of now, to prevent the wrong and outrage in this particular instance, may at least serve to enforce the communication with which the Undersigned will feel it his duty again to call the attention of his Government to the subject.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT C. SCHENCK.

His Excellency Paulino Jose Soares de Souza, &c.

B 45.

*Department of Foreign Affairs,
Rio de Janeiro, February 1, 1853.*

(Translation.)

The Undersigned, of the Council of His Majesty the Emperor, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note No. 82, which Mr. Robert C. Schenck, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, addressed him on the 31st of December last, in which, referring to certain publications made by the journals of this city, relative to the landing of Africans, which was effected lately under the flag of his nation, in one of the ports on the coast of the empire, he asks to be furnished with whatever information or proofs that may be within reach, in connection with that fact, inasmuch as he is very desirous to cooperate on his part, in the prevention and punishment of similar crimes, particularly when committed by American citizens.

The Undersigned regrets to have to communicate to Mr. Schenck, in reply to his note aforesaid, that four sailors belonging to the crew of the slaver having been captured on the 4th of last month, two of whom are American citizens, they have deposed that said vessel (slaver) is the North American brig "*Camargo*," Captain Gordon; that she entered this port loaded on the 22nd of October, 1851, proceeding from California; that on the 11th of April of last year, she sailed from this place for the Cape of Good Hope, with a lawful cargo, dispatched with the same nationality by the American citizen George Marsden, who is also detained for the investigation, proceeding from there to Mozambique and Quillimane, where she was armed, and received on board a cargo of 500 Africans, who were landed at Bracuhy, on the coast of Angra dos Reis, on the 12th day of December, being accompanied by the crew to the top of the mountain, and the vessel set on fire on the same night of the landing.

Such is the scanty information which the Undersigned can give for the present to Mr. Schenck, the proceedings which have been instituted not being

yet fully organised, but as soon as the investigation has been brought to a close, the Undersigned will not neglect to furnish Mr. Schenck with more ample particulars in order that he may communicate the same to his Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PAULINO JOSE SOARES DE SOUZA.

Mr. Robert C. Schenck,

&c. &c. &c.

Translation of an Editorial in the "Correio Mercantil" of Rio de Janeiro, of December 31, 1852.

When we gave yesterday the information we possessed respecting the landing of Africans at a point upon our coast, we said: "We are informed that this violation of law was perpetrated under the American flag.

"From subsequent information we have received, we can say, and we do so with regret, that it was the flag of the United States which covered this act of piracy, sustained by citizens of that great nation, who, disobeying the orders of their Government, and violating the laws of their country, do not blush to soil the glorious flag of their nation only with a view to the vile profits of this accursed Traffic in Africans.

"If it is possible, for special considerations, to weaken the painful impression which all must feel at the sight of the perpetration of a great crime, such considerations exist for us in the reflection that it was not our flag which protected the crime perpetrated; and that even our authorities upon the coast can find an excuse for not having employed measures to prevent the landing of which we treat, in the absence of force at their disposal to resist the [capangas] of our capitalists, who will thence presume that they can do whatever they think proper for their particular interest.

"If the Government of the American Union does not resolve to vindicate still more the honour of its flag; if its diplomatic Agents, and those of its navy, have not their powers enlarged, or are not provided with means for prosecuting those who, against the laws of their own country, violate the Laws of Nations, the Slave Trade will recover new animation, and the American flag, which has assisted so much in the civilisation of the world, while it continues to be respected as the representative emblem of a powerful nation, will lose both in dignity and glory. It is confidently stated that other speculations, like that of which we treat, will also be protected by the American flag; and even although the American Minister should wish to employ all the means in his power to oppose the violation of the laws of the country which he so worthily represents, and should be assisted in this by the worthy commander of the squadron, how can they arrive at any profitable result so long as they have at their disposal only a few ships of war, all of large size, and scattered over so vast a station as that of South America?

"In spite of all we must not be disheartened; let the Imperial Government continue to employ all the legal means at its disposal (and investigations to discover the crime and its perpetrators are legal), it possesses more than enough of means of force, which, employed with caution, will bring to repentance those who dare abuse the laws to which they are subject, and whose violation can cause us much harm; injuring our reputation abroad, and retarding our prosperity.

"If the Imperial Government be assisted, as it should be, by the authorities; if among them be found the same energy which they say has been displayed by Señor Francisco Diego Pereira de Vasconcellos, Chief of the Police of the capital (who, we are told, has already discovered the clue through which he will be able to find out those who are criminal on land, no matter to what class of society they may belong), all the labour and expense of the last three years will not have been in vain, and the criminals will be arrested in their career.

"Not wishing to place any obstacles in the way of the researches of the criminal authorities, we are obliged to keep silence upon all we know; there will not be wanting, however, an occasion to inform your readers of all."

No. 602.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 5, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch dated the 17th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a message from the President of the United States, laying before Congress a correspondence which passed between Mr. Schenck, the United States' Minister at Rio de Janeiro, and the United States' Secretary of State, in 1851, 1852, and 1853, respecting the abuse of the American flag for slave-trading purposes.

With reference to that correspondence, I have to instruct you to say to Mr. Marcy that the contents of these papers have attracted much interest and attention in this country on the part of those acquainted with the past history of the Slave Trade in Brazil and in Cuba.

You will state that, although the Brazilian Slave Trade has happily ceased since the end of 1852, the great and very lamentable increase of the Cuban Slave Trade in 1853 has caused Her Majesty's Government to give their earnest attention to the remedial and preventive measures which Mr. Schenck has so clearly and forcibly pointed out to his Government for adoption.

Her Majesty's Government have particularly noticed the third recommendation contained in Mr. Schenck's despatch of the 26th of April, 1852, with regard to the expediency of passing a law prohibiting the granting of Consular sea-letters to American vessels sold on the coasts of Brazil or of Africa; and you will observe to Mr. Marcy that if such a prohibition had fortunately been law in the United States, a great portion of the Cuban Slave Trade which has of late been extensively carried on in United States' vessels, such as the notorious "*Lady Suffolk*," the "*Jasper*," the "*Silenus*," the "*General de Kalb*," and others, might have been prevented.

In conclusion, you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that some, if not all, of the useful legislative measures suggested by Mr. Schenck may be recommended to Congress by the Government of the United States.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 603.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that they had received information that an American vessel had been captured off the River Congo, by the United States' brig of war "*Perry*," on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See Class A, No. 55.

No. 604.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 3, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch which I have received from the British Commissioners at Loanda, and of a letter from the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel,"* reporting the proceedings of Lieutenant Page, of the United States' brig "Perry," in detaining an American vessel called the "Glamorgan," and in watching another, both of which were suspected of being employed to carry away slaves from the River Congo.

And I have to instruct you to communicate to Mr. Marcy the contents of the inclosed papers, and to state to him that Her Majesty's Government have received with much satisfaction these reports, showing the vigilance and activity of Lieutenant Page, and his readiness to avail himself of the cooperation of Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," for the prevention of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 605.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 12.)

(Extract.)

Washington, May 29, 1854.

I DID not fail, in conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th instant, to make to Mr. Marcy the remarks therein directed, in regard to the useful suggestions for checking the abuse of the American flag for Slave Trade purposes, made by Mr. Schenck, the United States' Minister at Rio de Janeiro, in the course of a correspondence between himself and the United States' Secretary of State, copies of which accompanied the message of the President to the Senate, dated the 4th of March last.

Mr. Marcy requested that I should convey to him in writing the observations of Her Majesty's Government, in order that he might lay them before a Committee of the Senate now employed in preparing a report upon the subject of the Slave Trade.

In compliance with this request, I have addressed to Mr. Marcy the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy herewith.

Mr. Clayton presented to the Senate, on the 23rd instant, a resolution, accompanied by a very able speech, recommending that an inquiry should be instituted by the Standing Committee of Foreign Relations as to the expediency of providing by law for such restrictions on the power of American Consuls in the Spanish West India Islands to issue sea-letters on the transfer of American vessels in those islands, as will prevent the abuse of the American flag by persons engaged in the African Slave Trade.

I have the honour to inclose an extract from the "Globe" newspaper, containing a copy of this resolution and a report of Mr. Clayton's speech, as well as the remarks of some other Senators on this subject, and also on that of slavery in the Island of Cuba generally, which will not be perused without interest by your Lordship.

Your Lordship will remark that Mr. Clayton has taken this opportunity to correct some of the very erroneous statements in regard to the late proceedings of the Spanish authorities in Cuba, contained in the speech of Mr. Slidell of Louisiana, a copy of which I have already had the honour to inclose.

* See Class A, Nos. 60 and 106.

Inclosure 1 in No. 605.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, May 27, 1854.

HAVING thought it my duty to call the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the valuable suggestions made by Mr. Schenck, the Envoy of the United States in Brazil, in the course of a correspondence which passed between that Minister and the United States' Secretary of State in 1851, 1852, and 1853, copies of which accompanied the message from the President to the Senate dated the 7th March, 1854, I have been instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to state to you, Sir, in reference to that correspondence, that these papers have attracted much interest and attention in Great Britain on the part of those acquainted with the past history of the Slave Trade in Brazil and in Cuba.

I am to state that although the Brazilian Slave Trade has happily ceased since the end of the year 1852, the great and very lamentable increase of the Cuban Slave Trade in 1853 has caused Her Majesty's Government to give their earnest attention to the remedial and preventive measures which Mr. Schenck has so clearly and forcibly pointed out to his Government for adoption.

Her Majesty's Government have particularly noticed the third recommendation contained in Mr. Schenck's despatch of the 26th April, 1852, with regard to the expediency of passing a law prohibiting the granting of Consular sea-letters to American vessels sold on the coasts of Brazil or of Africa; and Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that if such prohibition had fortunately been law in the United States, a great portion of the Cuban Slave Trade which has of late been extensively carried on in United States' vessels, such as the notorious "*Lady Suffolk*," the "*Jasper*," the "*Silenus*," the "*General de Kalb*" and others, might have been prevented.

In conclusion, I have to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that some, if not all, of the Legislative measures suggested by Mr. Schenck may be recommended to Congress by the Government of the United States.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 605.

Extract from the Washington "Globe" of May 23, 1854.

WEST INDIA SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. Clayton.—I present to the Senate the following resolution; and, as it is one of inquiry, I ask for its consideration now:

Resolved—

That the Committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing, by law, for such restrictions on the power of American Consuls residing in the Spanish West India Islands, to issue sea-letters on the transfer of American vessels in those islands, as will prevent the abuse of the American flag in protecting persons engaged in the African Slave Trade.

The President.—The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

Mr. Clayton.—I desire to ask the attention of the Senate while I submit a few remarks upon the subject of this resolution:

Since the year 1852 the Slave Trade has fearfully increased in the Island of Cuba. Thousands of African negroes have been brought from the coast of Africa during the last sixteen months and smuggled into this island, and the fact has attracted the attention of good men throughout the civilized world. No portion of this Union is believed to be more decidedly opposed to this inhuman Traffic than the southern portion of it, where, although men are deeply

interested in the preservation of their own peculiar institution, the abhorrence of these outrages on humanity by the African Slave Trade exists as strongly as it does in any other portion of the world, and I think I am fully justified in saying that the men of the South will go as far in putting down this inhuman Traffic in human flesh as any others. Southern honour stands pledged to that effect, and the brightest jewel in the chaplet of the South is her honour. We are all, then, equally interested to inquire what has been the cause of the recent extraordinary success of the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba? It is with regret that I am compelled to admit the fact that a great majority of these slaves have been imported from the coasts of Africa in vessels of American build, and that these vessels, navigated by crews of American sailors, and commanded by American captains, have participated in that Trade to an alarming extent, and in a manner which I will now proceed to explain :

The owner of an American ship, desiring to sell her for a slaver, sends her with a cargo to Havana. She arrives there with the understanding that she is to be sold and employed in the Slave Trade. Some wealthy individual or joint stock company, tempted by the prospect of enormous profits, advances money enough to purchase the vessel, and fit her out for an adventure to the coast of Africa. By the laws of the United States it is necessary for her new owner to procure for her a new register upon her return to this country, and within three days after she has arrived at a port here. She is generally purchased in the name of the captain who sails with her to Havana, and who undertakes with his employers to navigate her under the American flag, and with an American crew, to some port on the African coast at or south of Elephant Bay, for enormous profits, proportioned to the risk he incurs, but seldom falling short of 5,000 or 6,000 dollars. It was not the original intention that she should return to the United States, but her Commander, on his arrival at Havana, deposits her papers with the American Consul, and obtains, in lieu of them, for the vessel, a Consular certificate, called a Consular sea-letter. With such a certificate, or, as it is said, sometimes with the original sea-letter, with which he sailed from the United States, the captain embarks with the very crew with which he sailed from the United States, under the American flag, bound for Gallinas, or Cabinda, or some other port on the coast of Africa where slaves can be best procured. He takes with him another captain and another crew as passengers, to cover his design, composed generally of Portuguese or Spaniards, with the addition, perhaps, of a few American or English desperadoes, and his cargo is generally composed of farina, beans, casks of water, and aguadente, sweetmeats, and boards, seemingly cast without care on the top of the water-casks, but, in reality, all fitted and prepared to make a slave-deck to stow away the slaves on their return from Africa to the Island of Cuba, for which purpose this slave-deck, it is said, can be constructed by the crew in less than an hour.

On the voyage from Havana to the coast of Africa, if overhauled by an English cruizer, he points to his American flag and shows his American papers, and when he arrives at his port of destination, in pursuance of a previous arrangement, between those concerned in the Trade at Cuba and their agents on the coast of Africa, the American colours are lowered, the American captain and the American crew leave the vessel and go on shore, or on board another vessel waiting there to bring them back to Cuba, and the new captain and crew, who sailed in the slaver as passengers, then take charge of the vessel. If an English or American cruizer be in sight, they receive timely information by signals from the land, and thus avoiding capture, the vessel lays-to within sight of the barracoons, or slave-pens, without taking in sails, but merely lowering her topsails, until her human freight is, by the immense barges or boats prepared for the purpose on shore, put on board the vessel. Thus, frequently, 900 or 1,000 slaves are shipped aboard a vessel, and she is off on her return voyage to Cuba, eluding all pursuit, in less than one hour after she entered the port. Such an adventure is commonly achieved in the night, but it is also sometimes performed in broad daylight. I remember that, while engaged professionally in the trial of an indictment in the Circuit Court of the United States, for such a violation of the Acts of Congress, a sailor, and a very intelligent witness, swore that he had frequently seen a vessel run into the harbour of Cabinda, send down her topsails on the caps, and clear out, with 900 slaves on board, in half an hour.

A Consular passport, or sea-letter, as it is called, is required by our Treaty with Spain, in which its character and purposes are described. Without it a voyage from Havana to the coast of Africa could not be performed, as the vessel could not clear without it. Whatever may be its form, it is considered indispensable. It is a protection against English as well as Spanish cruisers. The English understand that we deny the right of search, and when the sea-letter is produced, and appears to be regular, they permit the slaver to proceed on her voyage without being searched; but when our own cruisers overhaul a slaver they proceed to search, and when they find such a cargo as I have described on board, they seize the vessel as a prize and send her home for a trial. As none but our own cruisers can capture her while she is in possession of this sea-letter, she may make nine voyages out of ten to the coast of Africa in safety, and if she be then captured, she has made a fortune for her owners. No very long period has elapsed since the "*Lady Suffolk*," the "*General de Kalb*," the "*Silenus*," and the "*Jasper*," with many other American vessels, have been employed in this infernal Traffic in the way I have described.

Sir, it is the duty of this Government to arrest this evil. Every senator will concur with me in that. But the question is, how can we do without interfering with the interests of our ship-owners? The right to sell an American ship in a foreign market is a very important right to us. If, upon the sale of a vessel in Cuba, a sea-letter be refused to the purchaser, the vessel must return home for a new register before she can proceed on a foreign voyage. To deprive her of the sea-letter when engaged in legitimate commerce would be felt as a great evil. But we must either tolerate the Slave Trade with Cuba, and, in fact, Africanize Cuba ourselves, or we must restrict the issuing of these passports by some means which will effectually prevent the American flag from being abused for the protection of persons engaged in the Slave Trade.

I see that Mr. Schenck, our late Minister to Brazil, in one of his despatches to the State Department, proposed to prohibit the issuing of sea-letters for any purpose; but it has occurred to me that, if an Act of Congress were passed directing the purchaser of an American vessel in Cuba to give bond with sureties in a sufficient sum that the vessel should not, before her return to the United States for a register, be employed in the Slave Trade, and should further provide that a large portion (say one half the sum to be exacted for a violation of the condition of the bond) should be given to an informer who should prosecute the slaver to conviction, it would, perhaps, as effectually stop the Traffic as an utter prohibition of the passport, while an honest trader might find it more advantageous to give such a bond to enable him to proceed on a foreign voyage before he returned home for a new register.

Other plans for arresting the Slave Trade have also been suggested, such as the prohibition of all direct trade in the vessels of the United States between Cuba and the coast of Africa, or prohibiting the exportation from Cuba in United States' vessels of certain classes or specified articles of merchandize suited only or principally to be used in the Traffic for Slaves; the employment of small war-steamers of the class called propellers, constantly on the coast of Cuba; and the establishment of Consulates on the coast of Africa. Without the adoption of some method for the suppression of the Slave Trade, it will not be believed abroad that we are sincere when we denounce it as piracy.

All these views are proper for the consideration of the Committee on Foreign Relations, but I am not disposed to go into the discussion of them now.

Before I leave the subject of the resolution, it may be well to remark that American ships are always sought for in Havana for the Slave Trade, and command a higher price when purchased or chartered to be used as slavers than the vessels of any other nation. Hence it is that our countrymen are more deeply implicated as participating in this Traffic than either Englishmen or Frenchmen. We have acquired a degree of skill in the construction of ships unequalled by any other nation. The ship-builder has enjoyed, ever since the 1st of January, 1850, when the Act of Parliament repealing the British Navigation Laws went into operation, the British market for the sale of American vessels, with the entire monopoly of the American market. The British Act of June 1849 changed the definition of a British ship, not requiring her to be of British build. We have declined to change our Navigation Laws in this regard, and still require that an American vessel shall be of American build. This is a species of manufacture that has always been protected against foreign competi-

tion, not merely by protecting and discriminating duties, but by utter prohibition, and yet I believe that the American navigating and commercial interest has generally opposed the tariff for the protection of American manufactures.

But it is not merely the superiority of the American vessel, but the superior character of the American captains for skill, intrepidity, and daring in these hazardous enterprises, that causes them to be employed at higher prices than could be obtained by others. The absence of an effective American naval force at Havana to arrest an American slaver, is also to be considered in connection with the fact that an English cruiser of some description is almost always ready to seize a slaver proceeding under English colours.

In connection with this subject, I desire to make some remarks in regard to an opinion which has been intimated by my honourable friends from Louisiana and Florida (Mr. Slidell and Mr. Mallory). They have both expressed the opinion, and it has gone out to the country, that Spain has it in view at this time to Africanize Cuba. When I heard the speech of the honourable Senator from Louisiana I confess that, though differing from him in his conclusions, I was strongly impressed by the statements he made. I was inclined to believe that, when facts were set forth so carefully and circumstantially to prove it, there was a disposition manifested at this time on the part of Spain to emancipate the slaves in Cuba. I was disposed also to defer to the superior means of information of the honourable Senator from Louisiana, as well as that of the Senator from Florida; but I beg leave to say to those gentlemen, who are now present, that, after some examination of the subject, I doubt the justice of the conclusions at which they have arrived, and I will venture to give some reasons why I entertain these doubts. I shall be very happy to be converted by them, if in error, but, for the present, from the information before me, the only proof that exists for an American statesman to rely upon, shows that if Cuba is about to become Africanized, it will be by our own vessels and our own crews importing slaves from the coast of Africa, and not by the efforts of Spain or of the Captain-General of Cuba.

I have seen, and I presume the honourable Senators to whom I have referred have seen, the "*Diario de la Marina*," published at Havana, of the 4th and 10th instant, and of the 12th instant. Those of the 4th and 10th contain Decrees of the Captain-General, the Marquis de Pezuela, which order a registration of all the slaves in the island, and at the same authorize the local authorities, or police-officers of the island, to visit plantations where slave-labour is employed, for the purpose of ascertaining whether slaves have been imported into the island in violation of the Treaties and Laws of Spain. The object, Sir, proclaimed on the face of these Decrees, made under the authority of the Queen, was to stop the Slave Trade—to arrest the very evil which was brought upon Cuba by our countrymen, as I have already stated. Well, Sir, upon visiting those estates, the police-officers, with the registry in hand of every slave on the plantation, ascertained that a great many additions had been made to the number of negroes, and satisfied themselves that the new comers were blacks imported from Africa, and they were accordingly declared not to be slaves. Then, Sir, what was the duty of the Spanish authorities under these circumstances? What was the duty of the man who controlled the Government of the island—his duty to God and man? The negroes were free; they had never been slaves; they had been kidnapped, and brought to Cuba by the pirates. They were ignorant, destitute, and utterly incapable of maintaining themselves. They did not know how to work on plantations; they could talk no word of English or Spanish; they could not be understood; and in that wretched condition the Spanish Government treated them as free, but for their own preservation it bound them as apprentices for one year, and I think this accounts for the statement to which one of the honourable Senators referred, that the Captain-General himself took one of these apprentices. Surely it was his duty to do so, if——

Mr. Slidell.—Will the Senator allow me to interrupt him?

Mr. Clayton.—Certainly.

Mr. Slidell.—In the remarks which I made I did not deal with the attempts of the Captain-General to give liberty to persons thus recently introduced into

the island. I made no comment on the subject of the apprenticeship of these negroes; but I did endeavour to call the attention of the Senate to the fact that Spain is now encouraging the importation of barbarian Africans, not as slaves, but as apprentices, and adopting the system of colonization, which, if carried out, will exceed in its horrors anything which has occurred in the annals of the Slave Trade in former years.

I showed, I think, by reference to the instructions on the subject of colonization and immigration, that they were allowed to carry four persons to the ton, somewhat in the proportion of ten to one of those allowed by our law. But I never objected—I made no reference in the way of criticism, or commentary, or disapprobation—to the attempt of the Captain-General to put an end to the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba; but I have denounced the attempt to establish, in another form, and under another name, a Trade which I thought infinitely more dangerous to us, and quite as cruel to the poor Africans themselves, as the Slave Trade which existed in former years. I believe the Senator from Florida (Mr. Mallory) made some allusion to the fact to which the Senator from Delaware referred.

Mr. Clayton.—I will reply to the point made by the honourable Senator directly: but I wish first to close my remarks in regard to this order of registration, authorizing the police to ascertain whether slaves had been imported into Cuba. The honourable Senator admits there is nothing wrong in that. I am happy to hear it. The Spanish authority has done nothing that it ought not to have done on that score. They have obeyed the dictates of humanity in regard to that registration, and the order for apprenticing the victims of the Slave Trade.

Then, Sir, the honourable Senator tells us that the order has been issued for the colonization of Cuba, and he thinks with African negroes. There, Sir, is the point upon which the honourable Senator is mistaken. I have this day seen the order itself, the Decree in the "*Diario de la Marina*" of the 12th instant; it does not propose to introduce African labourers into Cuba, but free labourers, Spaniards, Chinese, Coolies, and Yucatan Indians. I am assured, and I do verily believe, that nothing is further from the intention of the Spanish Government, at this very time, than to pursue a policy so suicidal, so destructive to her own interests, so injurious to us, and so infamous, as that of attempting to Africanize Cuba by means of the emancipation of the slaves.

The order, or decree, published by the Captain-General, I say again, Sir, confines the introduction of the free labourers into Cuba, contemplated by it, to Spaniards, Chinese, Coolies, and Yucatan Indians. Why, Sir, reflect for a moment, amidst the din that has been raised on this subject, upon what is the interest of Spain. She is not utterly insensible to her own interests. We have offered her one hundred millions of dollars for Cuba. She owes eighty millions to England, or rather to British capitalists. She must have become more philanthropic than I have ever heard she was before, and more willing to sacrifice for her philanthropy, if she is willing now to try this experiment. If it is to be done for the purpose of spiting us, it will be the most expensive indulgence of malice I ever heard of.

Sir, the Government of Spain is poor; she cannot afford to throw away a hundred millions of dollars. Cuba is not only important to Spain on account of the revenues accruing from it; but because it furnishes the Spaniards of Old Spain the best market in the world for their wheat. It is for that reason, among others, that you can never make an impression on the Spanish Cortes when you offer to purchase the Island of Cuba. It is a greater obstruction in your way, when you attempt to buy Cuba, that that market for wheat exists there, than the whole revenue derived from the island by the Queen and the Government.

A discriminating duty, every one knows, amounting to 10 dollars a barrel, is made in the Island of Cuba in favour of Spanish flour, and not only against us, but everybody else. It is for the gratification of the Spanish agriculturists that such an enormous discrimination is made. Do you believe, Sir, considering the deep interest which these agriculturists have in the island, in consequence of the fact which I have stated, and the power which they exercise in Old Spain, sufficient to crush any administration there, that Spain intends, merely for the purpose of gratifying her malice towards us, to turn loose half a

million of brigands in the island, to slaughter, to burn, and to destroy everything before them, and to renew all the horrors of San Domingo? I, for my part, cannot believe it. If my honourable friends who have ventured this opinion cannot bring forward something stronger than anything which I have yet seen introduced, I must take leave to express my dissent, and to say that I believe, at this moment, nothing is further from the intentions of the Spanish Government than to emancipate the slaves in Cuba, which would be attended with the inevitable destruction of their island.

Mr. President, these impressions, honestly entertained, have been now candidly and openly expressed to honourable Senators here. I hold myself, notwithstanding this expression of opinion, open to conviction, if gentlemen on the other side of the Chamber will produce facts to satisfy me that such a thing is contemplated by the Spanish Government at this time, as the utter ruin of that island. I am anxious to get all the information that can be had on the subject, and shall be thankful to any one who will correct any error into which I may have fallen.

Mr. Weller.—I should undoubtedly have objected to the introduction of this resolution this morning, if I had anticipated that the honourable Senator from Delaware contemplated making a speech. The subject, into the discussion of which the honourable Senator from Delaware has deemed it proper to go this morning, has been referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. That Senator is a member of the Committee; and he is aware of the fact that a meeting has been called for to-morrow for the express purpose of passing upon the very subject that he has been debating. I conceive, therefore, that it would have been much more proper for that Senator to have waited until the Committee, of which he is a member, had had an opportunity of investigating the facts, and making a report to this body. Upon the resolution being submitted by my friend from Louisiana (Mr. Slidell) the other day, the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Chase) intimated a desire to discuss the question, but he was prevailed upon to withhold the discussion until the subject could be properly brought before us on the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations. The example, however, has this morning been set by one of the oldest members of that Committee, of discussing a question which he proposes shall be investigated by the Committee in order to get at the facts. Does not every Senator discover that the right way would have been to have the Committee first investigate the questions upon which he and the Senator from Louisiana differ? And when the Committee shall have submitted the facts, we shall be enabled to enter upon the discussion with an understanding of its merits. But the other course has been adopted. I know it has been the practice in the Senate to introduce a resolution of inquiry merely for the purpose of hanging a speech upon it. That has been the practice; but I give notice now that I shall object to that course hereafter. It is, in my judgment, a practice that would be more honoured in the breach than in the observance, when we have practical questions to dispose of. It would be much better to proceed to the disposition of the public business instead of discussing in advance a question that must be investigated by a standing committee. I appeal, therefore, to the Senate to suffer this whole question to go to the Committee on Foreign Relations; and after they shall have made a report, we can have a full and free interchange of opinions here. But to the Senator from Delaware I must be allowed to say that I think it would have been much more respectful to the members of the Committee to which he belongs, if he had abstained from the discussion of this question until we could have met to-morrow, and interchanged opinions amongst ourselves.

Mr. Mallory.—Mr. President, I have been referred to by the honourable Senator from Delaware; and without any desire to engage in the discussion of the subject to which he has alluded at this time, I think it will be proper for me to make a remark or two explanatory, as I conceive, of the points which he has made.

The expediency of restricting the power of our Consuls in granting "sea-letters" to American vessels, upon their sale to American citizens in foreign countries, upon which the Senator from Delaware has commented, must be evident to every man acquainted with our commercial transactions abroad; and in connection with such transfers, I will remind the honourable Senator, of

what he is well aware, that American citizens abroad may purchase foreign vessels, and obtain in addition to the bill of sale or instrument, a transfer, a notarial certificate of property, and that such certificate, though it does not confer upon the vessel thus acquired an American character, makes her American property, and, as such, entitled to all the protection of the flag. Such vessels may engage in the Slave Trade. Indeed, vessels thus sailed may, under existing laws, engage in our coastwise trade, subject only to the payment of foreign tonnage upon every entrance at our Custom-houses.

This question should, I think, go to the Committee on Foreign Relations, in connection with that of sea-letters, to which the Senator from Delaware has referred.

Mr. Clayton.—Certainly.

Mr. Mallory.—Now, Sir, I proposed, when I introduced a resolution of inquiry a few days ago, and had it referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, to defer discussion (for I conceive it to be one of the most important which can come before us), until the question shall come up from that Committee; but the honourable Senator's remarks may, perhaps, mislead some of us who have not given special attention to this subject. He asks, very pertinently, what interest has Spain in Africanizing Cuba? Certainly such a course would be suicidal; and it is apparent to all, that so long as she can maintain her possession of the island, her clear and unquestionable interest precludes the consideration of such a course. The violations of private rights alone, apart from all other views, would for ever induce an honourable nation to avoid such a calamity. Cuba, the "ever faithful Cuba," is her principal colony, for the Phillipines and Porto Rico add but little to the revenues of the Crown. Cuba takes Spain's surplus flour, her oils, wines, and cotton fabrics, and many other articles of her produce and manufacture, and receives in return Cuba's sugar, tobacco, coffee, cigars, &c., giving to Spain profitable employment for outward and homeward voyages of her shipping, building up her merchant marine, and fostering a valuable school for seamen. This most valuable trade we have, by our unwise attempts at retaliation, aided to build up.

Spain, without seamen or shipping, saw the necessity of discriminating in favour of her own tonnage against that of all other nations, and did so by the imposition of heavier duties upon foreign vessels and their cargoes than upon her own. We, to coerce her into the abandonment of this policy, retaliated by corresponding enactments; enactments which have sent Spanish purchasers to the markets of England, France, and Russia, where no such restrictions upon her tonnage exists; and the result is, that while the Spanish flag is scarcely ever seen in our ports, Cuba imports from Great Britain alone about four millions of her products and manufactures annually in Spanish bottoms.

Such are some of the prominent interests and considerations which must induce Spain to make almost any sacrifice to retain this Colony; and unless we can find in her policy, as manifested by her acts and declarations, strong presumptions of a design to Africanize it, it would be as illogical as it would be unjust to her, to entertain the supposition; for to Africanize Cuba, Sir, is to arm the beastly and brutal African, fresh from his jungle, thirsting for blood, knowing no law, ignorant of all restraints, and to hurry him on to the slaughter of the white race and the desolation of the island. To Africanize, Sir, is to sum up, in one word, those horrors of which the civilized world was ignorant until St. Domingo's fiends, in liberty's name, devised them. I think, Sir, a fair review of Spain's policy and present position, with reference to Cuba, will justify our reasonable apprehensions of such a result; and it becomes us to determine whether we shall await its consummation, or by timely and judicious action avert it. Such a review, Sir, a calm and dispassionate review, I trust this subject will receive at the hands of the Committee.

Sir, I concur in much that the honourable Senator from Delaware has said with reference to American vessels in the Slave Trade. I deplore it, Sir, as much as he does, and would, at almost any cost, desire to see it annihilated. The only two slavers of which I have had any knowledge were American vessels. One of these, the "*Jasper*," to which the Senator has alluded, came directly from Havana to the coast of Florida, and subsequently, as I learn, delivered a cargo of slaves in Cuba; and, Sir, following a suggestion which has been urged

with much force in Great Britain with reference to her fleet on the African coast, I cannot doubt that our ships would be more efficiently as well as more economically and safely employed upon the coast of Cuba than upon the coast of Africa, in suppressing this Trade.

But, Sir, what can the ships of Great Britain and the United States do against the open and unequivocal encouragement and protection extended to the Slave Trade by the Cuban authorities? Think you, Sir, a slaver could land her cargo upon the shores of Cuba, were the authorities, in good faith, using the means at their command to prevent it? No, Sir, not one in ten thousand could escape detection. A large portion of Spain's effective navy patrols the shores of Cuba, while an army of 16,000 regular troops form its garrison. Its detectives and spies have proved to be as active and adroit as the days of Fouchet ever exhibited, and the Captain-General has the means of knowing the character and condition of every negro landed upon the island.

And yet, Sir, what are the facts? Why, we well know that Spain, in 1817, solemnly engaged to abolish and prohibit the Slave Trade, and received from Great Britain, as an inducement to do so, and as an equivalent for losses to be incurred by its suppression, 400,000*l*.

This, Sir, was thirty-seven years ago; and as, according to the most reliable Cuban statistics, five per cent. of her slaves die annually, notwithstanding all increase by births, it follows that slavery would have been extinct in Cuba seventeen years ago, had Spain redeemed her plighted faith.

It must be remembered that the number of males imported from Africa greatly exceeds that of the females, and births among them are not in the usual proportion to population.

Now, Sir, here we have the startling fact that, in the face of Spain's pledge to abolish the Slave Trade, it has been carried on steadily throughout this entire period of thirty-seven years, and that the number now on the island is nearly 500,000.

Nor, Sir, has there been much concealment about it. The commercial houses engaged in it, and their vessels, have, in years gone by, been as well known in Havana as is the Captain-General's palace; and the poll-tax upon the slaves, fluctuating with the avarice of succeeding Captains-General, is known to have varied from three to five ounces. It has, in fact, been a source of vast revenue to them.

These proceedings have not been unknown to Great Britain. She has publicly and indignantly denounced them, and has obtained, from time to time, the promises, the decrees, and the action of the colonial authorities, apparently conceived in good faith, to remedy the evil. Yet, Sir, there it stands—a monument of Spain's treaty pledges.

What, Sir, can we do to suppress this Trade, so long as this state of things exists in Cuba?

Now, Sir, let us not lose sight of the fact that the creoles of Cuba have no part, no station, voice, or responsibility in its government; that its laws, their exponents, and their executive officers, come from Spain; and that these authorities are responsible alone for the Slave Trade. The creoles have, by every means—every remonstrance and argument in their power, pointed out its evils; and they have contemplated with horror its blighting effects upon themselves, and their country and their posterity.

But, Sir, their appeals have never produced the slightest modification of Spain's consistent and determined policy to equalize, numerically, the slaves and the freemen; and if the Slave Trade has sometimes fluctuated, these fluctuations have ever been produced by this hellish policy alone. Spain well knows that the "ever faithful" Cuba could not be subjected by her standing army, large as it is. And in the language of one of her chosen and most enlightened statesmen, she regards her power of arming the African slaves as equal to an army of 100,000 men.

Thus, Sir, has Spain encouraged, nursed, and protected the African Slave Trade, not with the view of Africanizing, but as a means of controlling the island, well knowing that this deadly, blighting policy tends, beyond any other means in her power, to crush her dawning hopes of freedom; and the Cubans, isolated, alone, and unaided, their words, acts, lives, and liberties constrained, fearfully contemplate and ponder upon a struggle whose termination may be the knell of the white race in their lovely land.

But, Sir, the honourable Senator from Delaware has referred us to the recent Decree of the Cuban authorities for the registration of the slaves as an evidence of their intention faithfully to suppress the Trade. It may be so, Sir; but, with their consistent encouragement of it heretofore in the face of their Treaty, their promises, their Mixed Commission, and their Decrees, and apprenticeship system, we may be excused the indulgence of a doubt of their designs now.

I regard this Decree, Sir, as nothing more than a proof that Great Britain has, with more than her former firmness, demanded action at the hands of the Cuban authorities. Observe the British papers, Sir, and you will find a tone upon this subject as unlooked for as it must be startling to Spain. A recent number of the "Liverpool Times," in commenting upon Spanish affairs, says:

"In the present state of feeling in England, no great regret would be felt if the Americans were to get possession of Cuba in the scramble. On its present hands, that beautiful island is a source to us of more annoyance than any other place on the globe, Russia not excepted."

Such opinions from the British press have aroused Spain to action; and to them is, in my judgment, to be ascribed her new-born zeal. When we reflect, however, that a similar system, promises, and decrees, have been heretofore made and disregarded, we can have but little faith in those of to-day. The emancipados were formerly hired out for seven years; and under the present Decree this term is reduced to one year. And, Sir, looking at the past, may we not anticipate that the Slave Trade will progress as it ever has in Cuba since 1817; and that whether Spain shall call the brutal and savage African a slave or an emancipado, she will import him, and maintain him *in terrorem* over the Cubans as a means of retaining her ascendancy? It is a means, and perhaps a means as effectual as terrible.

Should Cuba, by her policy, become a second St. Domingo, she would reasonably hope to possess peculiar privileges and commercial relations with it; but, Sir, are we to fold our arms and await the operation of causes which are calculated, if not designed, to produce such results? Or are we at once to mark out and adopt a Cuban policy, based upon what we all believe, that the island will ultimately be a flourishing and integral portion of our Union?

Let us discard, for the present at least, the idea of purchasing Cuba. Depend upon it, Sir, it is not for sale, nor will it be as long as the Cortes or the people of Catalonia exist. In times of revolution, with some favourite, some "Prince of Peace" at the head of the Government, its peaceful purchase might be effected; but so long as Spain has a stable Government, a proposition to sell Cuba would hurl any Ministry, aye, Sir, any dynasty, from power.

The individual Spaniard of to-day has all the honour, pride, and character of his glorious ancestors, when Spanish captains and discoverers gave a new continent to Christendom; when her fleets covered the ocean, and when Castilian honour was a conspicuous, a brilliant example. In spite of the examples and the degradations of a Court, the most corrupt in Europe—in spite of ages of misgovernment, the Spaniard retains his heroism and his virtue. Such a people will not sacrifice their pride for money.

But, Mr. President, I expect to go into this discussion, and produce some facts on which a dispassionate judgment may be founded, when the Committee on Foreign Relations shall report. I expressed the other day a confident conviction in my own mind that Spain had deliberately entered on the policy of retaining possession of Cuba herself, of course in the first instance, and to Africanize it if she cannot do that; and every enlightened Spaniard on the Continent knows and feels that her hold upon it is daily becoming weaker. The prediction of Mr. Adams must come true. In 1823 he said that, just as certainly as an apple parted from the parent limb gravitated to the earth, just so certainly would Cuba come to the United States if separated from the mother country.

Mr. Clayton.—Mr. President, the topic which has just been partially discussed was not introduced here originally by me. It was brought here in the first instance by the honourable Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Slidell). He offered a resolution, and moved to refer it to the Committee on Foreign Relations, as I have now offered this resolution, and moved to refer it to the same

Committee. He accompanied his resolution with an elaborate speech, and a very able one, in which he gave us much valuable information. He was afterwards followed by the honourable Senator from Florida (Mr. Mallory), who offered another resolution of inquiry, which on his motion also went to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and he also thought proper to accompany his resolution with suitable remarks, stating, after he had done with them, that he would discuss the subject more fully hereafter.

Now, Sir, I submit to the honourable Senator from California that I followed good examples. Nothing has ever been more customary on this floor than for gentlemen to offer resolutions of inquiry with the very view of eliciting such information as they can get from Senators here before the resolution is sent to a Committee. I had the example of a distinguished member of the Committee on Foreign Relations (Mr. Slidell), of which Committee the Senator from California is also a member, for the course which I pursued. The opinions of these distinguished gentlemen to whom I have referred, went to the country; their remarks were published and republished in the newspapers throughout the country. The impression was made deep on the American mind that it was a deliberate purpose of the Spanish Government to emancipate the slaves in Cuba, and thereby Africanize the island. We all agree in deprecating such a result. Well then, Sir, was it not a legitimate subject of inquiry with me, and might I not be pardoned, I submit to the honourable Senator from California, when I offered a resolution for the very purpose of enabling me to make such remarks as I thought proper in reference to this subject, and also for the purpose of eliciting from those gentlemen who commenced the debate, such further information as they were above to give us? But the honourable Senator says the Committee is to sit to-morrow. Then I should have been exceedingly glad to hear, before the session of the Committee, all the remarks of the honourable Senator from Florida, which he promises he will deliver hereafter. I want light. We are perhaps to be called upon to decide to-morrow. Then I want all the information that can be given from every quarter. The honourable Senator doubtless is better acquainted with the subject than I am, and to him this information may not necessary, but to me I assure him it is.

Mr. President, in reference to the remarks of the honourable Senator from Florida, let me say that I do not at all deny that the Government of Spain has been in times gone by engaged in violating her own Treaty stipulations in regard to the Slave Trade, and I believe that sometimes her authorities, some of her Captains-General, have encouraged the introduction of slaves from Africa into that island. But, Sir, I will condemn no man without some evidence; and I must say that I have seen no evidence to satisfy my mind, or that of any other reasonable man, that the Marquis Pezuela, the present Captain-General of the island, has in any way encouraged this violation of the laws of Spain and the laws of God. On the contrary, I have his solemn assurance in a published proclamation, that the Spanish Government utterly denies the whole accusation. He denies it, appeals solemnly to the whole world, and asks to be credited when he states that nothing is further from the intention of the Spanish Government than this design which is charged against it. Where then is the proof? Does the honourable Senator from Florida produce any? Is the fact that slaves have been introduced into the island proof that they are about to emancipate all the slaves? Have they emancipated slaves? No, Sir.

But the honourable Senator says that they have introduced so many slaves, and have so many there now, that it is a serious obstruction to our taking the island. He states that threats have been made, that some one has said that the emancipating of the great number of slaves is a better protection to them than 100,000 armed men. It may be so; but that is not pertinent to the matter of our inquiry. The question I discussed was, not whether Spain would be justifiable in emancipating these slaves to prevent our taking the island. I have never been the apologist of Spain. I agree with the honourable Senator that the Government of Spain has been both corrupt and oppressive. I believe that in years gone by the Spanish authorities in Cuba themselves have either been concerned in the business of introducing slaves, or have winked at the introduction of them there. Whether it be calumny or not, it has been published that some of the Captains-General of former days actually received doubloons by the head for slaves that were legally imported into Cuba. But that is not the

question. It is whether there is any evidence that Spain intends to emancipate these slaves for the purpose of destroying the island now? Is there any evidence of that kind? I submit that if there be any, it has not been adduced.

Mr. President, I believe the day will come when Cuba will be annexed to the United States. At what time this will occur is a question which I am not able to solve. I see no prospect of it now. I see no reason at this time for for this Government's interference for the purpose of obtaining it by war or violence of any kind, or by the repeal of our laws of neutrality. I think it a dangerous period to make an effort of that description. There is great excitement at this time in the public mind throughout the United States in reference to the subject of slavery. The day may come—I have thought, in consequence of the proximity of the island to the coast of the United States, that the day must come—when it will be ceded to the United States, if not by Spain, by some friendly nations which shall cede it to us as Louisiana was ceded by France.

As to the fact which has been mentioned by the honourable Senator, that Spain has threatened us with emancipating her slaves if we should seize the island from her by violence, there is no doubt of it. I heard that threat from the lips of the former Spanish Minister here. He boldly and openly avowed the intention to emancipate the slaves, rather than permit us to take the island by violence; but he did not deny that the day would come when this island would be ours.

In conclusion, Sir, we have must have justifiable grounds before we can seize Cuba, and if there be such, the one now assigned is not among them. Sir, I ask for the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Weller.—I was not complaining of the Senator from Delaware for having set a bad example. I was complaining that he was following precedents which had been established, to the serious detriment of the public business. I was complaining of that Senator, as a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations, for entering to-day into the discussion of a question which is to be submitted to the investigation of that Committee to-morrow.

The Senator says, and I suppose he intends it for irony, of course, that I have paid some attention to this subject, and therefore may not require the information of other Senators. I am sure he meant that as irony.

Mr. Clayton.—No, Sir; not at all.

Mr. Weller.—I have paid no attention to this subject; but I propose first to investigate it, and then to discuss it; and it strikes me that older Senators might profit by following this example, though set by a young man. All that I desire is, that the time of the Senate shall not be unnecessarily consumed in the discussion of a question, when the subject must again come up for a full discussion. When I meet that Senator to-morrow in the Committee on Foreign Relations, I shall be prepared to receive all the information which he may have accumulated on that subject, and I trust each of the other members of that Committee will contribute whatever information he may have derived from any source whatever. Then I shall be prepared to pass upon it, and after it is submitted to the Senate, I shall be prepared to enter into the discussion of this question which has been sprung upon us to-day. But I will not consume the time of the Senate now.

Mr. Slidell.—I have no disposition to enter into the discussion of this question now, as it is evidently the sense of the Senate that it is not the proper time for its discussion. I wish to say, however, that it strikes me, the reference proposed by the honourable Senator from Delaware is altogether inappropriate. I cannot see what jurisdiction the Committee on Foreign Relations have over the manner of issuing sea-registers to American vessels. The appropriate Committee, it seems to me, with all due respect to the Senator from Delaware, for an inquiry into that subject, is the Committee on Commerce. I therefore move to amend the resolution by striking out "Foreign Relations," and inserting "Commerce."

Mr. Weller.—I think the resolution should go to the Committee on Foreign

Relations. The subject embraced in the resolution is already before that Committee. It is true the whole of our Consular system is in the hands of the Committee on Commerce; but the question on which the Senator from Delaware asks the interposition of the Government, is a question which properly belongs to the Committee on Foreign Relations; and, as the subject has already been referred to that Committee, I hope the reference proposed by the Senator from Delaware will not be changed.

Mr. Clayton.—It is not merely a question of commerce; it is a question which belongs to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Slidell.—Let the resolution be read again, that I may see whether my amendment be proper or not.

The Secretary read the resolution.

Mr. Slidell.—I withdraw my amendment.

The resolution was adopted.

No. 606.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 15, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th of May, stating that you have addressed a letter to Mr. Marcy in conformity with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 5th of May.

I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having addressed a letter to Mr. Marcy upon this matter; and I have to inform you that I have read with much satisfaction the able and interesting speech made by Mr. Clayton on the 23rd of May, when he proposed to the Senate of the United States his resolution recommending the adoption of legislative restrictions for the purpose of preventing the abuse of the American flag by persons engaged in the African Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 607.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 16, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of three important Decrees* with regard to slavery in Cuba, which were issued by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March last, and which are intended to promote the employment of slaves in agricultural labour, the protection of free labourers coming from foreign countries, and the registration of slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Inclosures in No. 384.

No. 608.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord,

Washington, June 5, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th ultimo, transmitting to your Lordship a copy of the note in which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th ultimo, I expressed the hope of Her Majesty's Government that some, if not all, of the useful Legislative measures for the suppression of the Slave Trade suggested by Mr. Schenck, late United States' Minister at Rio de Janeiro, in the correspondence between him and the Department of State during the years 1851, 1852, and 1853, may be recommended to Congress by the Government of the United States, I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a copy of the reply of the Secretary of State of the United States, stating that my note and other papers relating to the Slave Trade will shortly be communicated by the President to Congress.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 608.

Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, June 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 27th ultimo, in which the hope of Her Majesty's Government is expressed, that some, if not all, of the useful legislative measures for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which are suggested by Mr. Schenck, in the correspondence between him and this Department, to which you refer, may be recommended to Congress by the Government of the United States.

In reply I have the honour to state that a copy of your note, and of other papers relating to the Slave Trade, will shortly be communicated by the President to Congress.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. L. MARCY.

No. 609.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 7, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of a letter* and of its inclosures which have been received at this Department from the Admiralty, reporting the capture, by the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Linnet," off Cabinda, on the 29th of April last, of a barque, without papers or colours fully equipped for the Slave Trade, which vessel had shortly before arrived on the coast of Africa as the "Mellidon," sailing under the flag of the United States.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 610.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 10.)

My Lord,

Washington, June 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd instant, I have addressed to the Secretary of State of the United States, expressing the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the proceedings of Lieutenant Page, of the United States' navy, for the prevention of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 610.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, June 26, 1854.

HER Majesty's Government have received reports of the proceedings of Lieutenant Page, of the United States' brig "Perry," in detaining an American vessel called the "*Glamorgan*," and in watching another, both of which were suspected of being employed to carry away slaves from the River Congo.

I am instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to communicate to you, Sir, the contents of these reports, copies of which I have accordingly the honour to inclose herewith; and I am further instructed to state to you that Her Majesty's Government have received with much satisfaction the account they contain of the vigilance and activity of Lieutenant Page, and of his readiness to avail himself of the cooperation of Lieutenant Skene, of Her Majesty's sloop "*Philomel*," for the prosecution of the Slave Trade.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 611.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 10.)

(Extract.)

Washington, June 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from the "Union" newspaper, containing the copy of a report from the Committee of Foreign Relations of the Senate of the United States, on a resolution submitted by Mr. Slidell, of Louisiana, recommending the abrogation of Article VIII of the Treaty with Great Britain, signed at Washington, August 9, 1842.

Although this report was made to the Senate in secret session, and has consequently been published surreptitiously, I have little doubt of the accuracy of the version which has now found its way into the Ministerial newspaper.

Your Lordship will perceive that the Committee concur with Mr. Slidell in recommending to the Senate the abrogation of Article VIII of the Treaty, upon the grounds that the squadron, carrying not less than eighty guns, which the United States have by that Article engaged themselves to maintain on the coast of Africa, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, has been found inefficient for the purpose, while it could be more effectually employed in checking that trade by being transferred to the coasts of Cuba.

I have satisfaction, however, in stating, that I find there exists a firm determination on the part of most of the Senators of the free States to meet the proposal for abrogating the VIIIth Article of the Treaty of Washington with a decided opposition; and as a majority of two-thirds of the Senate would be required to pass that measure, they feel confident of being able to defeat it.

Inclosure in No. 611.

Extract from the "Union" of June 24, 1854.

Report of the Committee on Foreign Relations (of the Senate), on a Resolution relative to the Abrogation of the VIIIth Article of the Treaty with Great Britain of the 9th August, 1842, providing for maintaining a naval force on the coast of Africa, &c.

THE Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the resolution submitted by Mr. Slidell on the 29th May, 1854—"that in the opinion of the Senate it is expedient, and in conformity with the interests and sound policy of the United States, that the VIIIth Article of the Treaty between this Government and Great Britain, of the 9th of August, 1842, should be abrogated; and that, should the President of the United States concur in this opinion, he be requested to signify to the Government of Great Britain, in conformity with the XIth Article of that Treaty, the wish of this Government to terminate the said VIIIth Article"—have had the same under consideration, and respectfully report:—

That by the VIIIth Article of the Treaty with Great Britain, made at Washington on the 9th of August, 1842, commonly known as the Ashburton Treaty, "the parties mutually stipulate that each shall prepare, equip, and maintain in service, on the coast of Africa, a sufficient and adequate squadron, or naval force of vessels, of suitable numbers and description, to carry in all not less than 80 guns, to enforce separately and respectively the laws, rights, and obligations of each of the two countries, for the suppression of the Slave Trade; the said squadrons to be independent of each other, but the two Governments stipulating, nevertheless, to give such orders to the officers commanding their respective forces as shall enable them most effectually to act in concert and cooperation, upon mutual consultation, as exigencies may arise, for the attainment of the true object of this Article; copies of all such orders to be communicated by each Government to the other, respectively."

By the XIth Article of the same Treaty, it is declared that the VIIIth Article shall be in force for five years from the date of exchange of the ratification, and afterwards until one or other party shall signify a wish to terminate it.

The policy of stipulations of this kind with any foreign Power may well be questioned on general grounds; but your Committee do not think it necessary to enter upon so large and debateable a field of discussion, and will confine themselves to an examination of the question, whether, admitting the propriety and expediency of the measure at the time of its adoption, with the imperfect or erroneous information then possessed, it may not be proper and expedient now to abrogate it. It was then supposed that the most efficient mode of suppressing the Slave Trade was to employ numerous cruisers on the coast of Africa, and the very caption of the Treaty indicates the results that were expected to be obtained by it. It is entitled "A Treaty to settle and define the boundaries between the territories of the United States and the possessions of Her Britannic Majesty in North America, for the final suppression of the African Slave Trade," &c. It was believed that the best point for the employment of a naval force for the attainment of an object which the people and Government of the United States desired quite as earnestly as Her Britannic Majesty and her subjects, was the coast of Africa. An experience of twelve years has demonstrated the fallacy of that opinion.

Large squadrons have been kept up during that period by the two Powers, at an enormous expense in money, with a lamentable loss of life and destruction of the health of the officers and men employed in that noxious climate. And what has been the result? Let the record show. The British squadron comprises several steamers, counting in all 27 vessels, carrying about 300 guns and 3,000 men. The annual expense of the squadron, 706,450*l.*, about 3,500,000 dollars. This is the expense proper of the squadron. That of auxiliary establishments on the coast, connected with this service, and which might otherwise be dispensed with, is estimated at 300,000*l.* to 500,000*l.* Take the lowest figure, and you have 1,500,000 dollars to add to the direct cost of the squadron, making a total annual expenditure of 5,000,000 dollars. In 1845 alone, the

number of deaths of officers and men was 259, and of officers and men invalided, 271.

The United States have four vessels and 80 guns on the coast of Africa, being about one-eighth of our whole naval force afloat; and as the estimated expense of the navy, after deducting special objects, such as the transportation of the mail in steam-ships, improvement of navy yards, &c., is 8,351,171 dollars, the annual cost of this squadron may be fairly calculated at 800,000 or 1,000,000 dollars per year. This, it will be observed, is considerably less than the cost per gun of the British squadron, which is about 11,700 dollars.

It is a subject of congratulation, however, that for the last four years the mortality of our officers and men employed in this service bears a favourable comparison with that of other stations. This the Navy Department attributes to the extraordinary sanitary measures adopted by the officers of the squadron.

France at one time obligated herself to keep up an equal force with Great Britain on the coast of Africa—say, twenty-six vessels; but finding the engagements too onerous, she applied to the British Government for a modification of the Treaty, which was conceded, and she now has only twelve vessels so employed. There are no precise data on which the expenditure of France can be established; but estimating it by the proportion of vessels employed—say, twelve to twenty-six—it would be about 1,600,000 dollars. The annual joint expenditure of England, France, and the United States, thus appears to be 7,400,000 dollars.

Mr. Hutt, the Chairman of the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to investigate this question, stated on the 19th of March, 1850, “that the number of slaves exported from Africa had sunk down in 1842—the very year of the negotiation of the Ashburton Treaty—to very nearly 30,000. In 1843 it rose to 55,000; in 1846 it was 76,000; in 1847 it was 84,000; and was then in a state of unusual activity.” Sir Charles Hotham, who commanded for several years on the coast of Africa, and who is one of the most distinguished officers of the British navy, on his examination before the Select Committee, thus replied to the queries propounded to him:

Q. Was the force under your command in a high state of discipline, generally speaking?—A. I thought so.

Q. Were your views carried out by the officers under your command to your entire satisfaction?—A. Entirely so.

Q. What was the result of your operations? Did you succeed in stopping the Slave Trade?—A. No.

Q. Did you cripple it to such an extent as is in your opinion calculated to give to the Slave Trade a permanent check?—A. No.

Q. Do you consider that the Slave Trade has been generally regulated by the strength and efficiency of the British squadron on the coast, or by the commercial demand for slaves?—A. I consider that it is entirely dependent upon the commercial demand for slaves, and has little or no connection with the squadron.

Q. You think that the present system is open to many grave objections on other accounts, and that it will not succeed?—A. Experience has proven the present system to be futile.

The total result of the operations of our squadron during twelve years has been the capture of fourteen vessels.

The African Slave Trade has, it is believed, been entirely suppressed in Brazil; and in this hemisphere, the remaining Colonies of Spain, Cuba, and Porto Rico are its only marts. Your Committee think that, if the American flag be still employed in this nefarious Traffic now prohibited by every Christian nation, and surreptitiously tolerated by Spain alone, the abuse can be more efficiently corrected by the employment of our cruisers in the vicinity of those islands.

It would seem superfluous on the part of your Committee to say, that in commending the adoption of the resolution under consideration, they repudiate the most remote intention of relaxing in any degree the stringency of our legislation on the subject of the African Slave Trade. Its continuance, while it is so justly odious on moral grounds, is in every way prejudicial to our commercial and agricultural interests.

The abrogation of the VIIIth Article of the Ashburton Treaty does not necessarily imply the purpose of withdrawing our squadron from the coast of Africa. A portion of it, indeed, must necessarily be retained there to protect our commerce. Its only effect will be to enable the Executive to employ the force stationed there at any other point where its services may be more useful. We would still be bound by the — Article of the Treaty of Ghent, to use, in the language of the Article, “our best endeavours to promote the desirable object of the entire abolition of the Slave Trade.” And none can doubt that it will continue to be faithfully observed, as it has heretofore been, in letter and spirit.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the resolution.

No. 612.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 24.)

My Lord,

Washington, July 10, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd ultimo, respecting the capture of the American slaver “*Glamorgan*,” by Lieutenant Page, of the United States' ship “*Perry*,” I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that the master of the “*Glamorgan*” was convicted at Boston on the 3rd instant, of having been engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have also the honour to inclose an extract from the Boston “*Atlas*,” containing the copy of an address presented by the grand jury of the district of Massachusetts to the President of the United States, stating the result of their investigations in the case of the “*Glamorgan*,” and expressing their regret that Lieutenant Page released the supercargo of that vessel, who was in their opinion equally liable to punishment with the other officers of the slaver.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 612.

Extract from the “New York Herald” of July 1, 1854.

Address of the Grand Jury of the United States for the District of Massachusetts to the President.

[From the Boston “*Atlas*” of June 30.]

THE Grand Jury of the United States for the District of Massachusetts have addressed a letter to President Pierce, in regard to the mode of treatment of certain persons arrested on the coast of Africa, on suspicion of having been concerned in the Slave Trade, of which the following is a copy :

Circuit Court of the United States of America for the District of Massachusetts.

At a Circuit Court of the United States of America, for the District of Massachusetts, holden in Boston, within and for said district, on the 22nd day of June, in the year of our Lord 1854, the jurors of the United States, within and for said district, respectfully represent to the President of the United States that during their present term they have investigated sundry violations of the laws prohibiting the Slave Trade, and have found bills of indictment against the master, mate, and — of the brig “*Glamorgan*.” This vessel, which now lies at the navy yard in Charleston, under a libel for condemnation, was seized on the coast of Africa, the 9th of April last, by the United States' armed brig “*Perry*,” Lieutenant Richard Page commanding. She was chased and captured by boats under Lieutenant John Downs, and was brought into this port by him as prize-master. The vessel was fitted complete for a slaver,

and was proceeding to her slave station to take on board her human cargo when so opportunely captured. On board the slaver were two Portuguese, who are shown by the evidence before us to have been the principal offenders. One of them was the supercargo, who had fitted out the vessel in New York, and who is manifestly one of the principal agents in the Slave Trade carried on by American vessels with the Southern African coast. The substance of these facts must have been known to Lieutenant Page; yet, to our surprise, we find that, while he sent to the United States the captain, first mate, and three of the crew of the slaver, he released the supercargo and the second mate, who were the most guilty persons. The Act of the 20th April, 1818, makes it a crime for any person to fit out or prepare any vessel in any place within the United States to be employed in the Slave Trade. The Act of the 10th May, 1800, section 4, makes it the duty of the Commander of any commissioned vessel of the United States which shall seize any vessel employed in the Slave Trade, "to apprehend and take into custody every person found on board of such vessel, being of the officers or crew thereof, and convey them to the civil authorities of the United States in some of the districts thereof." The supercargo was, to all intents of the law, an officer of the slave vessel, for he entirely controlled her movements, and his release by Lieutenant Page has left him at liberty to pursue his atrocious Traffic, and to take off, by some other vessel, the very cargo of human beings he had prepared for the "*Glamorgan*."

The Act of the 3rd March, 1819, section 1, confides to the President of the United States the power to employ armed vessels of the United States to seize all vessels of the United States found engaged in the Slave Trade; and we therefore deem it fitting to present to his attention the conduct of Lieutenant Page; for if this practice be followed, or is common on the coast, it may well account for the fact that the Slave Trade is still continued under the American flag, where the only risk the most guilty parties run is to have their vessels seized and themselves set on shore to find others to take their cargo. Confident that the President will most cheerfully apply all his official powers to the suppression of the Traffic, and believing that it is essential that more stringent orders should be given to the Commanders on that station, and that they should be held to a strict account for vigilance and fidelity, the grand jurors very respectfully present the foregoing as the result of their investigations in the premises.

No. 613.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 24.)

My Lord,

Washington, July 10, 1854.

I HAD the honour to transmit to your Lordship with my despatch of the 29th May, the copy of a resolution, accompanied by an able speech, presented to the Senate of the United States by Mr. Clayton, of Delaware, recommending that an inquiry should be instituted by the Committee of Foreign Relations as to the expediency of providing by law for such restrictions on the power of American Consuls in the Spanish West Indies, to issue sea-letters on the transfer of American vessels in those islands, as would prevent the abuse of the American flag by persons engaged in the African Slave Trade.

I have now the honour of inclosing herewith extracts from the "*Daily Globe*" newspaper, containing reports of the further debates which have taken place on this subject, and also an extract from the "*New York Herald*," containing a copy of the Bill, which with some trifling amendments has been passed by the Senate, but still awaits the action of the House of Representatives, for the enactment of the proposed restrictions on the transfer of American vessels for purposes connected with the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 613.

Extract from the Washington "Globe" of June 26, 1854.

SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. Clayton.—Mr. President, I had the honour to submit a resolution to the Senate on the 22nd of May last, directing the Committee on Foreign Relations to make certain inquiries in regard to the Slave Trade in the Spanish West Indies. That resolution was adopted by the Senate, and I am now instructed by the Committee to report a Bill for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am happy to state, Sir, that the Committee unanimously agree that it is not less due to the honour of the United States than to the obligations of their Government and people to the cause of humanity, to continue our efforts to suppress this inhuman Traffic. If there be a single member of this honourable body who is insensible to the great duty imposed upon us as a civilized and Christian people in reference to the Slave Trade, I have yet to learn it. I assume it, that, with one heart and mind, the Representatives of the American States and people, with the hearty concurrence of the American President, stand at all times prepared to perform their part of the great duty of suppressing the exportation of slaves from Africa by the most stringent and effectual means within their power.

But although such is and has been the settled desire of all branches of this Government, it is now apparent that the measures we have adopted, although aided by the Powers of the two great nations of Europe which stand foremost in the march of human progress and Christian civilization, are inadequate for the purposes for which they were designed. Great Britain and France, with their squadrons always cruising on the coast of Africa, acting in cooperation with an American squadron of eighty guns on that coast, have, it is believed, failed not only to suppress, but even to diminish this infamous Trade. It is true, the importation of negroes into Brazil has nearly ceased since the year 1852, owing, I believe, to the energetic operation of the Brazilian Government in enforcing its Treaty with Great Britain; but the importation into the Spanish West Indies has greatly increased, to the disgrace of those who have administered the Government of those islands; and this Government is called upon by a consideration of the possible danger to a portion of our own country, whose prosperity and safety may be thus imperilled, as well as by all the dictates of humanity, to arrest that growing evil so far as we have means to accomplish the object.

I am well satisfied that this Traffic is most successfully, though not exclusively, carried on in American-built vessels, and under the protection of the American flag. On a former occasion I endeavoured to expose the means by which this shameful prostitution of the proud emblem of our national honour has been effected. Under the guard of the stars and stripes, the pirate has been enabled to renew all the horrors of the Middle Passage, and any man who will peruse the volume on "Africa and the American Flag," by Lieutenant Foote, of the United States' Navy, who commanded the United States' brig "Perry," on the coast of Africa, during the years 1850 and 1851, will comprehend the means by which the worst of men have committed the worst of crimes, and escaped, unwhipped of justice, by the abuse of our flag.

I have this morning received a letter on this subject from this able and efficient officer of our navy, dated the 24th instant, which I will submit to the perusal of any Senator desiring it, and which is well worthy of a careful consideration. He says:

"I have before me a copy of 'Instructions for the Senior Officers of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the West Coast of Africa, with respect to the Treaty with the United States of America, signed at Washington on the 9th of August, 1842, by the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland,' &c., which say—'The Commanding Officers of Her Majesty's vessels on the coast of Africa station will bear in mind that it is no part of their duty to capture, or visit, or in any way to interfere with vessels of the United States, whether these vessels shall have slaves on board or not.'"

This confirms the statement I made to the Senate when I originated this inquiry, that slavers sailing under the American flag are in all cases protected by it, unless they chance to be overhauled by one of our own cruizers. Other nations have resolved, and I think wisely, that we shall have the sole responsibility of the Traffic, if we are resolved that no others shall search our vessels. This fact redoubles the duty we owe both to God and man to spare no effort to prevent the Trade, and the necessary dishonour of our national character which flows from it when conducted in American vessels.

The writer of the letter to which I refer afterwards adds :

“The practice is, for American vessels to show their register or sea-letter to the foreign officer, as proof of nationality; they then become inviolate, and cannot be searched or detained.”

This, it will be remembered by the Senate, is precisely in accordance with the view I presented to the Senate on a former occasion when the Committee was instructed to direct their attention to the issuing of those papers commonly called “sea-letters,” and the restrictions which should be made when granting them, so as to prevent the abuse of the flag caused by them while the sale of American-built vessels in foreign ports should not be prevented. It is this sea-letter which enables every pirate engaged in this Trade in an American bottom to escape all the cruizers of Great Britain and France. As soon as the slaver produces this sea-letter, the nationality of the vessel is established as American, and then if there be a thousand slaves in her hold, she passes unobstructed by the cruizers of all other nations on her piratical voyage.

Now, Sir, it is just here, precisely at this point, that the Committee propose to make a blow at the Slave Trade. To a clear understanding of the old law, the mischief and the remedy, let us ascertain first what this sea-letter is.

By Section 14 of the Act of December 31, 1792, “concerning the registering and recording of ships or vessels,” it is enacted that when a registered ship or vessel “shall in whole or in part be sold or transferred to a citizen or citizens of the United States,” &c., “in every such case the said ship or vessel shall be registered anew, by her former name,” &c., “and her former certificate of registry shall be delivered up to the collector to whom application for such new registry shall be made, at the time that the same shall be made, to be by him transferred to the Registrar of the Treasury, who shall cause the same to be cancelled.” Then, to procure a new registry, it is necessary, under the same section, that the paper, which is now known as the sea-letter, shall be executed at the time of the sale. The provision is, “And in every such case of sale or transfer, there shall be some instrument in writing, in the nature of a bill of sale, which shall recite, at length, the said certificate [of registry], otherwise the said ship or vessel shall be incapable of being so registered anew.” Every registry (without which no vessel can be entitled to any of the privileges or benefits of a vessel of the United States) contains a certificate under oath of the facts which establish the nationality of the vessel, such as the name, occupation, and place of abode of the owner, the port to which she belongs, the name and citizenship of the master, and among other things that she is of American build. This sea-letter, or bill of sale, therefore, as it recites the certificate of registry at length, must always show the nationality of the vessel.

Hence, it appears that these instruments of writing substantially differ only from the sea-letters or passports required by the Acts of Congress of June 1, 1796, and March 2, 1803, in this particular—that the latter are required to be issued by the collectors to whom they are transmitted by the Treasury Department, after being signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary of State, while the former is executed by the party transferring the vessel abroad, and by usage, in presence of an American Consul. Both agree in certifying the nationality of the vessel. I can find nothing in the Acts of Congress which requires the Consul to authenticate such an instrument, or to issue it. His duties are prescribed by instructions from the State Department. But by another Act of Congress of the 2nd March, 1803 (not the Act of the same date just referred to), it is provided in the 3rd section :

“That when any ship or vessel, which has been or shall be registered pursuant to any law of the United States, shall, whilst such ship or vessel is without the United States, be sold or transferred, in whole or in part, to a

citizen or citizens of the said States, such ship or vessel, on her first arrival in the United States thereafter, shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of a ship or vessel of the United States."

The time allowed for obtaining the new registry is "within three days from the time at which her master, &c., is required to make his final report upon her first arrival, agreeably to the Act of March 2, 1799." This Act does not repeal the provision in the former Act of 1792, requiring the instrument in nature of a bill of sale on the transfer of an American vessel in a foreign port, and it carefully abstains from fixing any period for the return of a vessel so transferred abroad, to the United States for a new registry.

The consequence has been that vessels sold for slavers abroad have always been provided with these instruments in writing called sea-letters, though they are, in reality, nothing more than bills of sale reciting the old registry, which proved them to be American vessels. With this they have sailed for the coast of Africa, and by it they have been protected against all foreign cruizers.

This abuse of our flag, by these means, has been much complained of by our Consuls abroad in their correspondence with the Department of State. In November 1846, Mr. Parks, then Consul at Rio de Janeiro, requested the President's instructions on the construction of the Acts of Congress, and particularly whether a vessel so sold in a foreign port ought not, by law, to return home for a new registry before she could make a voyage to the coast of Africa with this instrument, sometimes called, as I have before stated, a sea-letter. The Secretary of State having consulted the Secretary of the Treasury, as well as the President, replied to him in a despatch dated May 26, 1847, of which I hold a copy in my hand, that they were "clearly of opinion that a vessel, under such circumstances, is not obliged to return to the United States for a new register."

Speaking of the Act of 1792, the Secretary then said :

"This Act was passed in the infancy of the Federal Government, and does not seem to have contemplated the sale of American vessels beyond the limits of the United States. When such sales were made in a foreign country, it would therefore have been a reasonable construction of its provisions to require the vessel to return to the United States for a new registry with the least practicable delay. Between the years 1792 and 1803, however, there had been a great expansion of our foreign trade. In consequence of the wars between the Powers of Europe arising out of the French Revolution, we had become, in a considerable degree, the carriers for the whole world. Congress, under these circumstances, deemed it necessary to provide expressly for the sale of American vessels to American citizens in all foreign countries."

This, the Secretary said, they had done by the third section of the Act of 1803, which I have read, and he then added :

"Congress had the whole subject before them at the time of the passage of this Act. Had they intended that the vessel should return home immediately for a register, they would undoubtedly have expressed this intention. So far from this being the case, their language is indefinite in point of time. It does not require the vessel to return immediately after the sale; but at whatever time she may return, it recognizes her right to all the privileges and benefits of an American vessel."

He then proceeded to say that a different construction of this Act would prove extremely injurious to American citizens in prosecuting our carrying trade between foreign nations—an object always much cherished by the policy of the United States—and would be detrimental to our shipbuilding interest. An American citizen could not then purchase an American vessel in China, or at the Sandwich Islands, to prosecute a lawful voyage from thence to any foreign country; and an American shipbuilder could not send his vessels abroad with any hope of selling them to American citizens beyond the limits of the United States. Besides, such a construction of the Act would be contrary to the settled practice at the Treasury Department. And he finally concluded that "the bill of sale, properly authenticated, and reciting at length the certificate of registry, becomes the substitute on board the vessel for that certificate, until her first arrival in the United States thereafter."

In the decision thus made by the President, with the advice and concur-

rence of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury in 1847, succeeding Administrations of this Government have fully acquiesced, and it may now be considered as the settled law of the United States. Viewing it as such, and desiring to prevent the evils of the Slave Trade, President Taylor, in his annual message of the 4th December, 1850, thus pressed the subject on the consideration of Congress :

“Your attention is earnestly invited to an amendment of our existing laws relating to the African Slave Trade, with a view to the effectual suppression of that barbarous Traffic. It is not to be denied that this Trade is still, in part, carried on by means of vessels built in the United States, and owned or navigated by some of our citizens. The correspondence between the Department of State and the Minister and Consul of the United States at Rio de Janeiro, which has from time to time been laid before Congress, represents that it is a customary device to evade the penalties of our laws by means of sea-letters.

“Vessels sold in Brazil, when provided with such papers by the Consul, instead of returning to the United States for a new register, proceed at once to the coast of Africa, for the purpose of obtaining cargoes of slaves. Much additional information of the same character has recently been transmitted to the Department of State. It has not been considered the policy of our laws to subject an American citizen who, in a foreign country, purchases a vessel built in the United States, to the inconvenience of sending her home for a new register before proceeding on a voyage. Any alteration of the laws which might have a tendency to impede the free transfer of property in vessels between our citizens, or the free navigation of those vessels between different parts of the world, when employed in lawful commerce, should be well and cautiously considered; but I trust that your wisdom will devise a method by which our general policy, in this respect, may be preserved, and, at the same time, the abuse of our flag by means of sea-letters, in the manner indicated, may be prevented.”

Had the suggestion thus made been followed by an Act of Congress, in the spirit of the message, the exportation of more than 100,000 slaves would probably have been prevented. But Congress, engrossed by the political struggles of 1850, made no attempt to adopt the recommendation. It is the object of the Bill I hold in my hand to adopt it now. It will not obstruct the transfer of American vessels in a foreign port for the purposes of lawful commerce, but will prevent the abuse of our flag by means of these sea-letters in future.

In this connection, suffer me to say that the Committee do not believe that the African Slave Trade will ever be arrested by the operation of the VIIIth Article of the Treaty of the 9th of August, 1842, called the Webster and Ashburton Treaty, by which about one-eighth of our whole naval force afloat has been employed on the African coast, at an annual cost of about 800,000 dollars, having captured only twelve slavers in twelve years. A portion of that squadron might always be advantageously kept on that coast to protect our commerce, and put down piracy. But the greater part of all our disposable force for the suppression of the Slave Trade should be employed in the Spanish West Indies, and it should not consist merely of one or two heavy frigates, or sloops of war, but chiefly of small steam-propellers, of light draught, mounting a heavy gun on a pivot, and with men enough to enable them to carry any pirate by boarding. We should faithfully fulfil the stipulation in the Treaty of Ghent, by always using our best endeavours to promote the desirable object of the entire abolition of this barbarous Traffic; and, as a suitable measure to effect that great object, the Committee now report this “Bill for the more effectual Suppression of the African Slave Trade in American-built Vessels.”

The Bill was read a first time, ordered to a second reading, and ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate.

Inclosure 2 in No 613.

Extract from the Washington “Globe” of July 1, 1854.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. Clayton.—I MOVE that the Senate take up for consideration the Bill reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations “for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade in American-built vessels.”

Mr. Sumner.—Before that motion is put, I should like to ask the Honourable Senator from Delaware, whether it is his purpose to have the Bill put on its passage now?

Mr. Clayton.—Yes, Sir, if I can. There is no time to lose. If it be longer delayed, the other House cannot act on it.

Mr. Sumner.—I have not examined the Bill with the care which I should like to give to one of such importance. So far as I do understand it, I hope it may be amended in an important particular.

Mr. Clayton.—That will be a subject for consideration when the Bill is taken up. Let it come under consideration, and then it will be subject to amendment. The Bill is not under consideration yet; when it is, the gentleman can offer his amendment, or give his objections, if he has any.

Mr. Sumner.—I know it is not up, but I made the remark by way of suggestion to the Senator from Delaware; and I wish to follow it up by the direct suggestion that the Bill be allowed to lie over for the present. It is within my knowledge that at least one Honourable Senator desires to speak somewhat at length on some aspects of the questions presented by the Bill. I do not myself.

Mr. Clayton.—I have only to say that the effect of such an opposition will be to defeat the Bill, and that I want the American people to understand. It is to defeat a measure which has for its object the suppression of the Slave Trade. Now, Sir, let us get at it, and then let us witness the opposition. The question is now on the motion to proceed to its consideration.

[The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read a second time, and considered as in Committee of the Whole.

It proposes to direct whenever any American registered ship or vessel shall, in whole or in part, be sold or transferred to a citizen or citizens of the United States, at any foreign port or place in North or South America, or in any of the West India Islands, or in the Cape de Verde Islands, or any island on or near the coast of Africa, the instrument of writing in the nature of a bill of sale, reciting at length her certificate of registry, in pursuance of the fourteenth section of the act of Congress of December 31, 1792, concerning the registering and recording of ships or vessels, shall be utterly void, unless it shall be executed in the presence of a Minister or Consul of the United States there residing, and shall contain an express condition that such instrument, and the title of the purchaser claiming under it, shall not be valid if the vessel shall make, or attempt to make, a voyage to the coast of Africa before returning to the United States for a new register. And if any citizen of the United States, in any such place, being the owner or agent for the sale of an American vessel, shall sell it, knowing that she is to be employed in the African Slave Trade, or that she is about to make a voyage to the coast of Africa before returning to the United States, or shall charter a vessel of which he may be the owner or the agent for a voyage to the coast of Africa, with the intent to sell the vessel on that coast, every person so offending, on conviction before the circuit court of the United States, for any district wherein he may be brought or afterwards found, shall pay 10,000 dollars, and be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three years, at the discretion of the court. Every charter of an American ship or vessel at any such foreign place, with the intent that the vessel shall be employed in the African Slave Trade, and every sale of an American ship or vessel on the coast of Africa, except it shall be duly condemned as unseaworthy, is to be illegal and void.

When any citizen or other person shall lodge information with the attorney of the district of any state or territory, against any person for the violation of the Act, by any sale or charter, or attempt to sell or charter any American vessel, contrary to the provisions of this Act, it is to be the duty of the attorney to commence a prosecution against the offender, and upon conviction of such offence, the informer or informers who shall have lodged the information, as aforesaid, are to be entitled to receive one-half the net sum recovered and paid into the hands of the Marshal of the district, exclusive of costs; and every

vessel illegally sold or chartered, contrary to any of the provisions of this Act, is with all her tackle and furniture to be forfeited to the United States, which, after condemnation by any court of the United States in the district into which she may be brought or found, are to be sold, and one-half the proceeds paid over to any citizen, or other person, who shall have lodged the necessary information before the attorney of the district for the condemnation of the vessel.

Every owner or agent for the sale of an American ship or vessel, who shall sell such ship or vessel in any of the ports as described, and every purchaser thereof are, at the time of the execution of the instrument of writing in the nature of a bill of sale for the transfer of the vessel, make oath or affirmation before a Minister or Consul of the United States residing at the place, that the vessel is not intended to be engaged in the African Slave Trade, which oath or affirmation is to be reduced to writing by the Minister or Consul, and by him duly certified and transmitted to the Department of State of the United States, which certificate, or a copy thereof, under the hand and seal of the Secretary of State, is to be evidence in any court of the United States; and if any such owner, agent, or purchaser, shall swear or affirm falsely in the premises, he is to be deemed guilty of perjury, and shall, on conviction suffer all the pains and penalties imposed by the Acts of Congress for wilful and corrupt perjury. Each party to every charter-party executed in any foreign port is to make the same oath or affirmation, to be taken, certified, and transmitted, and a copy authenticated and proved in the same manner, and he is to be punishable in the same way for swearing or affirming falsely. No such instrument in the nature of a bill of sale, and no such charter-party, is to be held legal and valid unless the provisions of the Act shall have been complied with.]

Mr. Clayton.—I have only one small amendment to offer. It is in the first section to strike out the words “North or South America,” and in lieu thereof to insert “on the Atlantic coast of America, or on any island, gulf, bay, inlet, or river, on or near that coast.” The object of this amendment is to confine the foreign port or place where these sea-letters shall be prohibited in the way they are by the Bill, to the Atlantic coast, instead of the Pacific coast of North and South America.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clayton.—Mr. President, I have but a few words to say upon the merits of the Bill. We now maintain a squadron, and we have four ships on the coast of Africa. The English have twenty-seven, and the French twelve or thirteen. The English and French together have but forty vessels on the coast of Africa, and we but four. It is but a fair calculation to say that they have eight times the force there that we have. Now the effect of this Bill is simply this: even if our squadron be withdrawn from the coast of Africa, which this Bill does not contemplate, it will put eight times the force on the coast of Africa for the suppression of the Slave Trade which exists there now, because it deprives every slaver of American nationality, and in consequence of that, a foreign cruiser can search her and seize her. Without this alteration in the law, a foreign vessel cannot seize, cannot search her. If she, as I stated the other day, has 1,000 slaves in her hold when a foreign cruiser boards her, she cannot stop her. Then, Sir, the Bill recommends itself at once, without further discussion, to the humane consideration of every gentleman present. I hope, without further debate, it may pass now, in order that it may go to the House of Representatives in time to become a law during the session.

Mr. Hamlin.—Mr. President, I shall vote for this Bill in the form in which it is now presented to the Senate; but still I desire to make a suggestion to the Honourable Senator who has reported it, which, if adopted, will meet my approbation, and will, I think, make the Bill much more effectual. I think I am justified in saying that there is no commerce between the Atlantic coast of South America and the coast of Africa, in which our vessels have been engaged, which is not directly connected with the Slave Trade; or, in other words, none of our vessels leave the South American Atlantic coast for Africa, except for the purpose of engaging in the Slave Trade.

The Bill, therefore, in my judgment, should be one absolutely prohibiting trade in American vessels between the South American Atlantic coast and

Africa, and forfeiting the vessel for any engagement in that commerce. Then, let the Bill contain a further provision, that where any transfer has been made in the islands adjacent to us, the vessel shall return home and take out new papers.

The object of granting sea-letters, I take it, originally was to benefit the navigating interest, to encourage ship-building in the United States, in order that American vessels might be sold abroad. I so understand it. If a sale were made in a South American port, as low down as Brazil or lower, and you were to compel that vessel to return to the United States and obtain a bill of sale before the transfer was made, you might find it impossible in many instances to sell where you can sell by granting a sea-letter. I would not, therefore, compel a return of the vessel absolutely, before the sale of the vessel in those ports, to get a bill of sale from the proper officers in the United States; but I would absolutely prohibit the trade in that vessel between the South American Atlantic coast and the coast of Africa. Then there can be no avoiding the provision.

Why, Sir, the law is well enough now, but for an avoidance of it; and let me tell the honourable Senator from Delaware, that in my judgment men who will engage in this traffic will find ways enough to evade the provisions of this Bill. There is no adequate method by which the Trade can be suppressed, except by prohibiting intercourse entirely between these two coasts. I have come to this conclusion from a long conference with gentlemen who have resided in Brazil, and from a thorough investigation of it with a gentleman of Virginia, who was at the time resident in that place. He satisfied me beyond a doubt that the only possible way of suppressing the Trade was to declare it illegal in whole from these southern ports, and then require your vessels absolutely to return from the islands which are nearest—Cuba, Jamaica, and all those islands—before transfer.

This latter provision may be some hardship. Perhaps sales may be sometimes prevented, if you require our vessels to return from there; but still the distance is not so great as to make it very onerous upon them; and a Bill containing these two provisions, in my judgment, would be vastly more effective, and vastly more certain of producing the results which the honourable Senator from Delaware desires. Still, I shall vote for this Bill in its present form, if it cannot undergo this alteration.

Mr. Clayton.—Mr. President, I could make the Bill more effectual, as the honourable Senator says, very readily, by prohibiting all trade whatever from any Atlantic port whatever, or any West India port; but then I should trespass on a great principle of policy to which the United States have uniformly adhered, and that is, not to interfere with either the ship-building or the navigating interest of the country. That has been the cherished policy of the Government.

Now, Sir, I do not wish to have this great measure encounter any such opposition as this Bill will meet if the suggestion of my honourable friend be adopted. I do not say that, thinking as I do of this inhuman Traffic, I might not agree with him, even at the expense of the navigating interest, in the suggestion he has made. But, Sir, I am satisfied that this Bill is sufficient for the purposes we have in view; and it is not necessary at all to interfere either with the navigating interest or the ship-building interest of the country.

I think it is true that there is not a very extensive trade between the South American and African coasts, but nevertheless there is a trade, the extent of which probably neither the honourable Senator nor myself is aware of. Our trade is growing with that country, and will continue to grow between different parts of the world every year.

Here, Sir, we have in view the adoption of a great measure of humanity, and in endeavouring to get it through, let us avoid bringing it into conflict with any of these questions of national policy. As the Bill now stands, it cannot interfere at all with the navigating interest of the country, nor with the ship-building interest in any form. It cannot encounter objection from any man who is not resolved that the African Slave Trade shall go on as it has under these sea-letters. I trust, therefore, that the Bill will pass as it stands.

Mr. Pettit.—Mr. President, I regret that I am not better acquainted with

the strategy and detail of commerce, and especially this kind of commerce which it is proposed to suppress. I will say, however, that there is no Senator who will go further than I will to suppress this Traffic, which is abhorred by God and denounced by man. Its suppression is a measure that commends itself to the consideration and the approval of every man of heart in the country, as I believe.

I regret, Sir, that I have not had an opportunity to examine the details of this Bill. No such opportunity has been given the Senate at all. The Bill has been but recently brought before the body. I urged the Senator at his seat to consent to let the matter lie over until Monday, but he did not see fit to do so. I hope that something will arise that shall render it necessary to pass the Bill over, until we can consider it further.

Before I sit down I shall offer an amendment to this Bill, providing for putting into the hands of the Colonization Society some funds, to furnish them help and aid to suppress this Trade. Such a measure, in my judgment, will be more efficient than even this Bill. Nothing, in my opinion, is so well calculated to suppress that Trade, as to create a cordon of civilized towns upon the African coast, south of the present settlements in Liberia.

A small amount of money, probably one-third or one-fourth the amount which it now costs us to maintain the squadron which we are bound by the Ashburton Treaty to keep up on the African coast, will do four times as much service in the suppression of the Slave Trade as is now done by the maintenance of that squadron. I am therefore by no means wedded to its continuance. I am willing that the Treaty shall be abrogated, so far as that is concerned, provided always we get something more efficient to take its place. But, Sir, I am not willing now, in view of the passage of a recent measure that has excited the country, to remove and repeal the last barrier, as it will be said, whether truly or not, to the suppression of the Slave Trade, with a view to the importation of slaves into the country to answer a supposed increased demand. I cannot consent to withdraw that squadron, unless something more efficient, or at least as efficient, be placed in its stead.

I believe, Sir, that instead of appropriating 800,000 or 1,000,000 dollars a-year for the maintenance of eighty guns on the coast of Africa, an annual appropriation of 250,000 dollars to the American Colonization Society, to enable them to ply steamers between our coast and the African coast, with ordinary equipments, perhaps one long gun and other preparations for seizing and suppressing African slavers, and with a view to the purchase of tracts of country from time to time on this coast, upon which to plant your emigrant negroes and build up civilized societies, will be the most efficient measure that can be adopted. On this coast slaves are now brought to market and sold there, as is well known, to traders for this continent and its adjacent islands. I believe that, by enabling the American Colonization Society to settle it with civilized communities, we should do tenfold more to suppress the Slave Trade than by the maintenance of the present squadron, or even the provisions of this Bill.

The subject has not been well matured by me; but there can be, in my judgment, nothing so well calculated to suppress slavery and the Slave Trade as civilization. Put civilization as a wall along the coast of Africa, where these creatures are brought from the interior by their brethren, and sold to the cupidity of American traders, and you will at once, I believe, effectually suppress this trade. I wish to accomplish that object. But not being willing that our present preventive measures shall pass from our hands; not being willing that this provision of the Ashburton Treaty shall be abrogated, or even that this Bill shall be passed at present; and not being willing to trust to the liberality of Senators and members to pass what, in my judgment, the occasion demands, after the adoption of this Bill, I shall insist, before it be passed, that some provision like that which I now offer shall be adopted, or some evidence given that it will be adopted. With that view I offer the following additional sections, as an amendment to the Bill:

Section . And be it further enacted, that the sum of 250,000 dollars be, and is hereby appropriated to be, paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the order of the proper officer of the American Colonization Society, for the year ending 30th of June, 1855, for the purpose of enabling said society to establish a line of steam-vessels consisting of two steamers. Said

steamers shall each make three trips within the year, and as near as possible at regular intervals, alternating between the ports of New York, Baltimore, Norfolk, Savannah, and New Orleans, and the west coast of Africa, touching at such places as said society shall direct.

Section . And be it further enacted, that the Government of the United States shall have the privilege of transporting to and from West Africa, the Government mails, and likewise the Government stores each trip.

Section . And be it further enacted, that said society shall arm each steamer with one long, heavy gun, on a pivot, and two small guns, and shall man them with a proper complement of seamen to render efficient service, under private commissions from the Government, to repress and check slavers on the line of their voyage between this country and the west coast of Africa, and along the line of said coast, and on their return voyage shall run down said coast as low as Cabarda, and return cruising along said coast as high as the Gambia.

Mr. Clayton.—Mr. President, I hope that amendment will not prevail. If it be adopted it may perhaps defeat the Bill. If the honourable gentleman desires to offer such a proposition as that the Government of the United States shall employ the Colonization Society in the business of navigating steamers between this country and Liberia, let him bring it forward on some other occasion. Let him bring it forward on some occasion when it will not embarrass a measure of this salutary character. There is nothing of necessary connection between this amendment and the Bill.

I, Sir, am myself a friend of the Colonization Society, and I should be very happy to see it advanced in all its great objects; but I do think that if this amendment be engrafted on the Bill at this time, it will defeat it. We know that honourable gentlemen here, who are friendly to the Bill as it stands, are directly opposed to this amendment. There is no necessary connection whatever between the two. I trust, therefore, that as the honourable gentleman professes to be in favour of the Bill, he will consent to withdraw the amendment, if he discovers, as I think he will, on a very slight examination, that it must necessarily obstruct the passage of the measure.

I do not go into a discussion of the questions arising out of the amendment the gentleman has proposed. I confine myself in my objection to it in this single remark, that it must have the effect of impeding the passage of the Bill. There is barely time now left for the Bill to pass through the House of Representatives as well as the Senate, although I believe there is a general feeling in favour of the measure, in both branches of Congress. I hope the Senate will not agree to the amendment.

Mr. Pettit.—I will not say that the honourable Senator from Delaware is opposed to this measure to appropriate any money for the suppression of the Slave Trade, but he talks very much like a member of any legislative body who is opposed to a measure submitted. He says this is not the right place, it is wrong; it has no connection with this Bill, move it somewhere else. Move it again, when we have the least possible chance of success, is the advice the Senator gives me.

Sir, so far as relates to its connection with this Bill, none could be more appropriate. The bill is entitled "A Bill for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade in American-built vessels;" and nothing can be more appropriate for that purpose than the appropriation of a small amount of money to carry out the object. What could be more efficient than the plying of two steamers which it is proposed shall be plied? What could be more efficient than the appropriation of the money proposed by it?

I desire, Mr. President, however, while I am up, to say, that I shall press this amendment, or something in its form. I am not willing that this Bill shall pass, that the subject shall be up in any form, that the abrogation of the Treaty of 1842 shall take place, withdrawing our squadron from that coast, unless there shall be some substitute for it. I desire, however, to ask that the whole subject may lie upon the table, and the Bill be ordered to be reprinted, with the amendment, in order that Senators may see it. It may need some pruning, some alteration, and some amendment: and until Senators can see it, they cannot well make up their minds. I move that the Bill lie on the table, and be ordered to be reprinted with the amendment.

Mr. Clayton.—I hope the Senator will withdraw that for a moment.

Mr. Pettit.—Certainly.

Mr. Clayton.—The honourable Senator labours under an entire misapprehension of the character of the Bill. Why, Sir, the Bill has nothing to do with the abrogation of the Vth Article of the Ashburton Treaty of 1842. It contains no provision on that subject whatever. It has nothing to do with it. It contains provisions for the suppression of the Slave Trade in American-built vessels, but it does not, in any part of it, refer to the Ashburton Treaty, or to the withdrawal of any part of our squadron from the coast of Africa.

Mr. Pettit.—Another proposition does contemplate that.

Mr. Clayton.—What is the effect of the Senator's proposition? To order this to lie on the table until he can have time to look at it further. The session is nearly at an end; we have no time to lose. If honourable Senators concur with me in the beneficent character of this measure, and the humanity of it, they will, unless they have objection to it, assist me in its passage, and I call upon them to stand by me and assist me in passing it now, in order that the other branch of Congress may have an opportunity to act upon it.

Mr. Hunter.—I hope this subject will go over. The amendment of the Senator from Indiana presents a very important question; and I think it is likely to commit the United States to the adoption of a very dangerous policy. At any rate, I should like to have time to look into it further. I hope, therefore, it will be allowed to go over. We ought not to be hurried to a vote on such a subject as this.

Mr. Pettit.—I move to postpone the further consideration of the subject until Wednesday, as the Senate has agreed to adjourn from to-day till Wednesday; and that the bill be reprinted with the amendment.

Mr. Clayton.—Does the honourable Senator from Virginia purpose to sustain the amendment of the Senator from Indiana?

Mr. Hunter.—No, Sir; I am opposed to it as far as I understand it. I wish to examine it further, however.

Mr. Clayton.—Would the honourable Senator under any circumstances give 250,000 dollars to the Colonization Society for this purpose?

Mr. Hunter.—Certainly not. But I wish to look further into the matter.

Mr. Bright.—I sympathize with my colleague, and think his amendment germane to the Bill. If he intends to press the consideration of the subject upon the attention of Congress at this season, it cannot be so properly done upon any plan as upon this. The amendment is an important one; it appropriates a large sum of money. The hour of one o'clock is arrived, at which the Senator from Texas is entitled to the floor. I therefore hope the subject will be postponed for the purpose of letting him proceed with his remarks.

The Presiding Officer. (Mr. Badger in the chair).—The question is on the motion to postpone the further consideration of the subject until Wednesday next, and that the Bill be reprinted with the amendment.

Mr. Clayton.—It is not to order it to lie on the table.

Mr. Pettit.—No, Sir; I submitted a motion to postpone in place of the other motion.

The motion was agreed to.

Inclosure 3 in No. 613.

Extract from the Washington "Globe" of July 6, 1854.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. Stuart.—I now wish to ask the Senate to take up, with a view of disposing of it to-day, if we can, the Bill making a grant of land for the relief of indigent insane persons, which has been returned by the President of the United States, with his objections.

Mr. Clayton.—We have now on the table a Bill which is the special order immediately after this shall be disposed of. I refer to the Bill reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade in American-built vessels. I hope we shall take up that Bill now.

Mr. Hunter.—I think it would be better to take up the veto message. The Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Brodhead) has been here day after day, desiring to speak on it, and I think it is due to him that he should have an opportunity to do so.

Mr. Clayton.—It was understood on Saturday, when the Bill for the suppression of the Slave Trade was postponed, that it would be taken up immediately after the special order which has just been disposed of. That Bill is one on which I presume there will be no debate whatever; for I suppose, from what I understand, that an arrangement can be made which will supersede the necessity of any debate at all. I hope, therefore, that we shall adhere to the special order; it cannot consume more than a few minutes, and then we can take up the veto message.

Mr. Stuart.—If the Bill of the Senator from Delaware be first in order on the table, and if it will lead to no debate, as he supposes, I am willing to withdraw my motion, so as to allow that Bill to be taken up; but I assure the Senate that I am exceedingly anxious to dispose of the other question, for it stands in the way of other business.

Mr. Clayton.—The gentleman cannot be more anxious than I am to dispose of the veto message; but I wish to take up the first Bill in order.

Mr. Adams.—I desire to inquire of the Chair if the veto message is not first in order?

The Presiding Officer.—The first Bill now on the orders of the Senate for consideration is the Bill spoken of by the Senator from Delaware. Immediately after that is the Act making a grant of public lands to the several States of the Union for the benefit of indigent insane persons.

Mr. Cass.—I agree with my colleague on this matter. If the vote can be taken on the Bill of the Senator from Delaware without discussion, I have no objection to its being taken up. After that I shall be in favour of taking up the veto message. I believe we ought to have a vote upon that. Then, for myself, I shall vote against every proposition to bring other business before the Senate until the Homestead Bill be taken up.

Mr. Hunter.—I have no objection to taking up the Bill of the Senator from Delaware, if it be understood that the amendment which is pending will be withdrawn; but surely he does not suppose that the amendment will be voted on without debate.

Mr. Clayton.—I suppose that, if the Bill be taken up, that amendment will be withdrawn in the course of a very few minutes.

The Presiding Officer.—Does the Senator from Michigan withdraw his motion?

Mr. Stuart.—Yes, Sir.

The Senate then resumed, as in Committee of the whole, the consideration of the Bill for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade in American-built vessels, the pending question being upon the amendment offered on Saturday last by the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Pettit) to add the following additional sections :

Section . And be it further enacted, That the sum of 250,000 dollars be, and is hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the order of the proper officer of the American Colonization Society, for the year ending 30th June, 1855, for the purpose of enabling said Society to establish a line of steam-vessels consisting of two steamers. Said steamers shall each make three trips within the year, and, as near as possible, at regular intervals, alternating between the ports of New York, Baltimore, Norfolk, Savannah, and New Orleans, and the west coast of Africa, touching at such places as said Society shall direct.

Section . And be it further enacted, That the Government of the United States shall have the privilege of transporting to and from West Africa, the Government mails, and likewise the Government stores, each trip.

Section . And be it further enacted, That said Society shall arm each steamer with one long heavy gun, on a pivot, and two small guns, and shall man them with a proper complement of seamen to render efficient service, under private commissions from the Government, to repress and check slavers on the line of their voyage between this country and the west coast of Africa, and along the line of said coast, and on their return voyage shall run down said coast as low as Cabarda, and return cruizing along said coast as high as the Gambia.

Mr. Clayton.—In regard to that amendment, I have to say that I trust the honourable Senator who offered it will see the propriety of withdrawing it. I understand distinctly that the Colonization Society has not desired any such proposition to be moved to this Bill : the Colonization Society has not interfered in any way to amend or alter the Bill. In relation to the proposition itself, I wish to say that, if the object of the honourable Senator be to establish a line of steamers between this country and Liberia, he will always find me friendly to a proposition of that description, if offered in the proper place. I trust the honourable Senator from Indiana, seeing these things, will not be disposed to obstruct the passage of this measure, which is a very important one.

Mr. Pettit.—Mr. President, before I sit down I shall withdraw the proposed amendment ; but, before doing so, it is proper that I should make a very short explanation :

I offered this amendment at the instance of the Rev. James Mitchell, who is the agent of the Colonization Society for five States in the West—Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin—as I understand. He presented me the paper, requesting me to offer it as an amendment. I now understand from the Senator from Delaware that the Colonization Society do not desire it offered to this Bill, and therefore, at the suggestion and with the concurrence of the gentleman at whose instance I offered it, I withdraw it.

The Bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read a third time, and passed.

Inclosure 4 in No. 613.

Extract from the "New York Herald" of July 5, 1854.

SENATOR CLAYTON'S BILL FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

A Bill for the more effectual Suppression of Slave Trade in American-built vessels.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that whenever any American registered ship or vessel shall, in whole or in part, be sold or transferred to a citizen or citizens of the United States, at any foreign port or place in North or South

America, or in any of the West India Islands, or in the Cape de Verde Islands, or any island on or near the coast of Africa, the instrument of writing in the nature of a bill of sale, reciting at length her certificate of registry, in pursuance of the fourteenth section of the Act of Congress, of December 31, 1792, concerning the registering and recording of ships or vessels, shall be utterly void, unless it shall be executed in the presence of a Minister or Consul of the United States there residing, and shall contain an express condition that such instrument, in the nature of a bill of sale, and the title of the purchaser claiming under it, shall not be valid if the said ship or vessel shall make, or attempt to make, a voyage to the coast of Africa before returning to the United States for a new register. And if any citizen of the United States, in any such port or place, being the owner or agent for the sale of an American ship or vessel, shall sell such ship or vessel, knowing that she is to be employed in the African Slave Trade, or that she is about to make a voyage to the coast of Africa before returning to the United States, or shall charter a vessel of which he may be the owner or the agent for a voyage to the coast of Africa, with the intent to sell such ship or vessel on that coast, every person so offending, on conviction thereof before the Circuit Court of the United States for any district wherein he may be brought or afterwards found, shall forfeit and pay the sum of 10,000 dollars, and shall be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three years, at the discretion of said Court. Every charter of an American ship or vessel at any such foreign port or place, with the intent that such ship or vessel shall be employed in the African Slave Trade, and every sale of an American ship or vessel on the coast of Africa, except such ship or vessel shall be duly condemned as unseaworthy, shall be illegal and void.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, that when any citizen or person shall lodge information with the attorney of the district of any state or territory, as the case may be, against any person for the violation of this Act, by any sale or charter, or attempt to sell or charter any such American ship or vessel, contrary to the provisions of this Act, it shall be the duty of the said attorney forthwith to commence a prosecution against the offender, and upon conviction of such offence, the informer or informant who shall have lodged the information as aforesaid, shall be entitled to receive one-half the net sum recovered and paid into the hands of the Marshal of the district, exclusive of costs; and every such ship or vessel illegally sold or chartered, contrary to any of the provisions of this Act, shall, with all her tackle and furniture, be forfeited to the United States, and after condemnation by any Court of the United States in the district into which she may be brought or found, such ship or vessel, with her tackle and furniture, shall be sold, and one-half the proceeds of sale shall be paid over to any citizen, or other person, who shall have lodged the necessary information before the attorney of the district, for the condemnation of such ship or vessel.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, that every owner or agent for the sale of an American ship or vessel, who shall sell such ship or vessel in any of the ports aforesaid, and every purchaser of such ship or vessel shall, at the time of the execution of the instrument of writing in the nature of a bill of sale for the transfer of such ship or vessel, make oath, or (if conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath) an affirmation before a Minister or Consul of the United States residing at such port or place, that the said ship or vessel is not intended to be engaged in the African Slave Trade, which oath or affirmation shall be reduced to writing by the said Minister or Consul, and by him duly certified and transmitted to the Department of State of the United States, and such certificate, or a copy thereof, under the hand and seal of the Secretary of State, shall be evidence in any Court of the United States; and if any such owner, agent, or purchaser, shall swear or affirm falsely in the premises, he shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and shall, on conviction thereof, suffer all the pains and penalties imposed by the Acts of Congress for wilful and corrupt perjury. Each party to every charter executed in any such foreign port, shall make the same oath or affirmation, to be taken, certified and transmitted in the same manner, and a copy thereof to be authenticated and proved in the same manner, and he shall be punishable in the same way for swearing or affirming falsely. No such instrument in the nature of a bill of sale, and no such charter-party, shall be held legal and valid unless the provisions of this Act shall have been complied with.

No. 614.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 28, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, reporting that a notorious slave-trader named Jacintho Derizanz had arrived at that port in the American vessel "*General Pierce*," with the intention, as was supposed, of proceeding to the coast of Africa on a slave-trading voyage, but that his scheme had been frustrated by the opposition of Captain Scott, Acting Consul of the United States at Rio de Janeiro.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 615.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 25, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, an extract of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting the capture by Her Majesty's ship "*Espiègle*" of the brig "*Grey Eagle*" of Philadelphia, after she had landed a cargo of slaves at Ortigosa. I also transmit to you a copy of a further despatch‡ upon this subject which I have received from Mr. Crawford giving the substance of a deposition made by Joseph Town, of Philadelphia, before the United States' Acting Consul at Havana respecting the voyage of the "*Grey Eagle*," and the composition of her crew; and I have to desire that you will bring these circumstances to the knowledge of Mr. Marcy, and that you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that this case may be followed up.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 616.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 15, 1854.

I HAVE to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Consul at Philadelphia has reported to me the proceedings taken by the authorities of that city against the Commander of the "*Grey Eagle*," the case of which vessel formed the subject of my despatch of the 25th ultimo; and I have to instruct you to take a favourable opportunity for again bringing this matter before the Government of the United States, and repeating the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the case may be followed up.

I now transmit to you, for your further information, a copy of a despatch§ which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, relating to the case of the "*Grey Eagle*," and giving an account of other Slave Trade proceedings reported to be carried on in United States' vessels.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 117.

† No. 486.

‡ No. 493.

§ No. 490.

No. 617.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 2.)

(No. 16.)

My Lord,

Washington, September 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a copy of a note by which, in pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 25th ultimo, I have communicated to the United States' Government the circumstances attending the capture by Her Majesty's ship "Espiègle," of the brig "*Grey Eagle*" of Philadelphia. I have also expressed the hope of Her Majesty's Government that this case may be followed up.

I have likewise the honour to inclose the copy of the reply which I have received from Mr. Marcy, stating that proceedings have been instituted by the authorities of the United States against the parties implicated in the case, and that those proceedings will be vigorously prosecuted to a termination.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 617.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, September 12, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, an extract of a despatch which the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba reporting the capture by Her Majesty's ship "Espiègle" of the brig "*Grey Eagle*," of Philadelphia, after she had landed a cargo of slaves at Ortigosa; likewise a copy of a further despatch upon this subject received by his Lordship from Mr. Consul-General Crawford, giving the substance of a deposition made by Joseph Town, of Philadelphia, before the United States' Acting Consul at Havana respecting the voyage of the "*Grey Eagle*," and the composition of her crew. In bringing these circumstances to your knowledge, in obedience to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, I am likewise directed to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that this case may be followed up.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 617.

Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, September 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of yesterday, transmitting an extract of a despatch of the 29th of June last, and the copy of another despatch of the 20th of July following, both from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba to the Earl of Clarendon, relative to the capture of the brig "*Grey Eagle*," of Philadelphia, and expressing the hope of your Government that the case may be followed up.

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that proceedings have been instituted by the authorities of the United States against the parties implicated in the case, and that those proceedings will be vigorously prosecuted to a termination.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. L. MARCY.

No. 618.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 10.)

My Lord,

Washington, September 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from the "New York Herald" newspaper, reporting the legal proceedings which have been instituted by the United States' Government against the master of the American brig "*Julia Moulton*," and other parties connected with this vessel, on a charge of having been engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 618.

Extract from the "New York Herald."

CHARGE OF EXTENSIVE TRAFFIC IN SLAVES—SIX HUNDRED AND SIXTY
LANDED ON THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

United States' Marshal's Office,
September 20, 1854.

THE United States' District Attorney, Mr. John McKeon, has, in consequence of information received by him, been actively engaged for some weeks past in ferreting out certain parties charged with fitting out vessels in New York for the purpose of trafficking in slaves. Accordingly, warrants were entrusted by Mr. Hillyer, the Marshal, to Mr. Horton, one of his deputies, and Officer Nevins. Horton this morning succeeded in arresting the captain of the brig "*Julia Moulton*," at No. 372, Walter-street, where he was secreted in the back premises. The following is a copy of the affidavit which implicates the captain:

James Wills, of the city of New York, mariner, being duly sworn, says: that J. Smith, a citizen of the United States, being master of the brig "*Julia Moulton*," a vessel navigating for and on behalf of the said Smith, did, some time in the month of April, 1854, within the Admiralty jurisdiction of the United States, on the coast of Africa, on tidewater, feloniously, forcibly confine and detain on board said brig or vessel, so owned and navigated as aforesaid, 660 negroes, not held to service by the laws of either of the States or Territories of the United States, with the intent to make such negroes, and each of them, slaves.

It further appears that after landing the 660 slaves on the Island of Cuba, from the coast of Africa, the brig was burned. The offence with which the captain is charged is a capital one, involving the forfeiture of life, and is therefore not bailable.

The party arrested by Officer Nevins, on a charge of fitting out the vessel contrary to the Act of 1818, is a highly respectable shipchandler down town, and well connected in the city. We forbear giving his name until an investigation takes place and the allegation is found to be true or false. The District Attorney imposed a rule of bail of 40,000 dollars on this gentleman, which was entered into by three responsible sureties before Mr. Commissioner Morton, by whom the warrants of arrest were issued.

No. 619.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 6.)

My Lord,

Washington, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, containing information in

regard to the movements of a certain Don José Egea, who has repaired to New York for the purpose of fitting out a slave-trading expedition from that port.

I have lost no time in communicating this information to the Government of the United States, and also to Her Majesty's Consul at New York.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 619.

Consul-General Crawford to Mr. Crampton, October 11, 1854.

[See Inclosure in No. 515.]

No. 620.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith an extract of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at Havana, containing some information respecting the system which is now constantly pursued, and is every day becoming more general, by which vessels fitted out in the United States, and commanded and manned by American citizens, are employed in carrying on the Cuba Slave Trade.

I inclose also copies of three depositions† sworn before Mr. Lynslager, the Governor of Fernando Po, and Acting British Consul in that Island, by John Walsh, John Pearce, and John McLaughlin, seamen belonging to the United States' schooner "*Oregon*," of New Orleans, showing the circumstances under which that vessel was, in May and June last, engaged in a slaving voyage on the west coast of Africa, which, however, was interrupted by the stranding of the vessel in the River Bonny.

I have to instruct you to communicate the inclosed papers to Mr. Marcy, and to call his attention to the manner in which the vessels of the United States are employed in protecting this abominable Traffic.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 621.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 10, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 8th instant, respecting the manner in which vessels belonging to the United States are employed in carrying on the Cuba Slave Trade, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana.

You will communicate to Mr. Marcy so much of the contents of the inclosed despatch as you may consider necessary in order to support the representation which you have been instructed by my despatch of the 8th instant to address to the United States' Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See Class A, No. 29.

† Inclosures in No. 53.

‡ No. 513.

No. 622.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Washington, October 30, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 23rd instant, I transmitted to your Lordship a copy of a letter which I had received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, relative to a slave-trading expedition alleged to be fitting out at New York, by Don José Egea.

I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the note in which I communicated the letter of Mr. Consul-General Crawford to the Secretary of State of the United States, and likewise a copy of Mr. Marcy's reply, in which he informs me that the communication in question has been sent to the Attorney-General of the United States for the southern district of the State of New York, with proper directions upon the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 622.*Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.*

Sir,

Washington, October 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for the information of the proper Department of the Government of the United States, the copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, stating that a certain Don José Egea lately left the Havana for New York, for the purpose of organizing a slave-trading expedition from that port.

The information in Mr. Crawford's letter seems calculated to enable the United States' authorities at New York, and the officers commanding the naval force of the United States on the coast of Africa, to trace M. Egea's proceedings, and to prevent the execution of his design.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 622.*Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.*

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, October 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 20th instant, with the accompanying documents, relative to Don José Egea, who is supposed to have recently left Havana for the purpose of organizing a slave-trading expedition at New York.

In reply I have the honour to acquaint you that a copy of your communication has been sent to the Attorney of the United States for the southern district of that State, with proper directions upon the subject.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

W. L. MARCY.

No. 623.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 28, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, on the west coast of Africa, reporting that the United States' Commodore on that station had visited Lagos, and inclosing a copy of an Agreement which Commander Mayo had concluded with the King and Chiefs of that place. Her Majesty's Government learn with great satisfaction, from the preamble to this Agreement, that measures are taken to put a stop to the abuse of the United States' flag on the African coast.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 624.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Washington, December 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a note which in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, calling his attention to the manner in which American vessels are used in carrying on the Slave Trade to the Island of Cuba, and showing the circumstances under which the United States' vessel "*Oregon*" was engaged in a slave-trading voyage to the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 624.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, December 2, 1854.

I HAVE been instructed to communicate to the Government of the United States two papers which I have the honour to inclose herewith, and to call your attention to the facts thereby disclosed in regard to the manner in which the vessels of the United States are employed in carrying on the Slave Trade to the Island of Cuba.

The first of these papers is a copy of a despatch received by Her Majesty's Government from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, and will be found to contain information respecting the system now constantly pursued, and which appears every day to become more general, by which vessels fitted out in the United States, and commanded and manned by American citizens, are employed in this inhuman Traffic.

The second paper contains copies of three depositions sworn before Mr. Lynslager, the Governor of Fernando Po, and Acting British Consul in the island, by three of the crew of the American schooner "*Oregon*," showing the circumstances under which that vessel was, in May and June last, engaged in a slave-trading voyage on the coast of Africa, which, however, was interrupted by the stranding of the vessel in the River Bonny. This document will be shown to throw considerable light upon the devices resorted to by the masters of slaving-vessels, in order to evade the legal consequences of these criminal acts.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 625.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, by which you will learn that Mr. Soulé has conveyed to his Lordship a new version of the fabricated report as to the alleged intention of the British Government to establish an African Empire in the West Indies. I inclose also a copy of the answer† which I have returned to Lord Howden's despatch, and I have to instruct you to communicate to Mr. Marcy the substance of these papers.

You will at the same time deliver to Mr. Marcy a note, stating that as Her Majesty's Government have been informed on official authority of the belief entertained in the United States that the British and Spanish Governments have made an arrangement by which immense numbers of free negroes have been introduced into the Island of Cuba, you have been instructed formally to state that such belief is entirely without foundation, no such arrangement having been made or contemplated, and no free negroes having been, to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government, landed in Cuba.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 626.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Washington, December 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 4th instant, inclosing the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo, I addressed to Mr. Marcy, calling his attention to the manner in which American vessels are used in carrying on the Slave Trade to the Island of Cuba, I have now the honour of inclosing a copy of Mr. Marcy's reply to my communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 626.

Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, December 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 2nd instant, calling my attention to two papers therein inclosed, relative to the manner in which vessels of the United States are employed in carrying on the African Slave Trade to the Island of Cuba, and to inform you in reply that I will endeavour to make use of them for the more effectual prosecution of persons concerned in that Traffic, who may be subject to the jurisdiction of this Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. L. MARCY.

* No. 425.

† No. 427.

No. 627.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 31.)

My Lord,

Washington, January 15, 1855.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd ultimo, I have made Mr. Marcy acquainted with the substance of the despatch by which Lord Howden informs your Lordship that Mr. Soulé, Minister of the United States at Madrid, has conveyed to his Lordship a new version of the fabricated report which has been widely spread in the United States, as to the alleged intention of the British Government to establish an African Empire in the West Indies. I have also communicated to Mr. Marcy the substance of your Lordship's reply to Lord Howden's despatch, and I have delivered to Mr. Marcy a note, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, stating formally that the belief which Mr. Soulé affirms is entertained in the United States in regard to this matter, is utterly without foundation.

Mr. Marcy remarked to me, that for his own part he had never attached the least credit to the rumours which were afloat in regard to the existence of an arrangement of any sort between the Governments of Great Britain and Spain, for what was called the Africanization of Cuba; and that from the moment I had voluntarily made to him, without any inquiry on his part, a communication of your Lordship's unequivocal denial of the existence of any arrangement or design of the sort, he had never missed any opportunity of expressing, whether to his own colleagues in the Cabinet, to leading members of Congress, or to persons connected with the public press, his entire disbelief of the truth of any such reports. He felt therefore at a loss to conceive how Mr. Soulé had come to entertain the erroneous impression under which he laboured; but it was certainly not from any communication he had received from the Department of State.

With regard to the belief in question, Mr. Marcy remarked, that it certainly had been at one time very prevalent in this country, but that it seemed lately to have been very much weakened, if not totally abandoned.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 627.

Mr. Crampton to Mr. Marcy.

Sir,

Washington, January 8, 1855.

HER Majesty's Government having been informed, on official authority, that a belief is entertained in the United States that the British and Spanish Governments have made an arrangement by which immense numbers of free negroes have been introduced into the Island of Cuba, I have been instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to state to you, Sir, formally, that such belief is utterly without foundation; no such arrangement having been made or contemplated, and no free negroes having been, to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government, landed in Cuba.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 628.

Mr. Crampton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 6.)

My Lord,

Washington, January 23, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, in which I had the honour to inclose the copy of a note, addressed, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of 22nd December last, to the United States'

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Secretary of State upon the subject of a belief which was stated by Mr. Soulé to exist in the United States, that large numbers of free negroes had been introduced into the Island of Cuba, in pursuance of the terms of an agreement to this effect between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of Spain, I have now the honour to inclose a copy of Mr. Marcy's reply to my communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 628.

Mr. Marcy to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, January 20, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 8th instant, relative to a belief supposed to be entertained in the United States to the effect that the British and Spanish Governments have made an arrangement by which immense numbers of free negroes have been introduced into the Island of Cuba, and to acquaint you, in reply, that no formal disclaimer upon the subject has been deemed necessary by this Government.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. L. MARCY.

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Charleston.*

No. 629.

Consul Bunch to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 18, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Charleston, December 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship two copies of a Presentment made by the Grand Jury of Williamsburgh District, in this State, at their last Fall, or Autumn, Term, respecting the propriety or expediency of a revival of the Slave Trade, under the authority of the Government of the United States.

This document was submitted to the Committee of the Legislature known as that "on the coloured population," and your Lordship will find annexed to it a synopsis of the report of that body.

Inclosure in No. 629.

Presentment of the Grand Jury of Williamsburgh District, respecting the Revival of the Slave Trade, and Report of the Committee of Legislature.

Mansion House, Columbia, Monday, December 18, 1854.

Messrs. Editors,

I HAVE it in my power to-day to place before you the presentment of the Grand Jury of Williamsburgh District, in relation to the African Slave Trade, and a brief synopsis of the report of the Committee on Coloured Population, to whom it was referred. The presentment of the Grand Jury of Richland District to the same, which you have already published, was not presented to the Legislature; but that and this, and the report of the Committee are an expression of sentiment on this subject, which could not have been anticipated many months ago. To this proceeding I attribute great importance. With slavery are indissolubly linked for all time the fortunes of this country. Whether willingly or not, it will become imperative upon us to study its nature and its constitution. In studying its nature and its constitution, we will come to many changes of opinion; we will discover values which we will find it our duty to perpetuate. Instead of contenting ourselves with defending it in its present position, we feel called upon to advance it—from passive resistance we will advance to active aggression, and when once in action, slavery will be found to be the most potent principle of political power the world has seen. That its progress will be slow, is probable. It is to be hoped that it will be slow, but in the system there is nothing to admonish of dissolution and decay; all yet is healthful, and that it will arise to action and to power there is scarcely room for doubt to him who looks upon it with unclouded judgment. Convinced of this, I have watched the indications of a change in public sentiment with interest and solicitude, and in the facts which I have mentioned, I have seen them start to most important consequences. The indications are faint, of course; there is no violence in the earlier movements of reaction; but I feel firm in the assurance that the tide has turned to flow and flow without an ebb for ever. It is not probable that the action will soon transcend the limits of this State; but the causes which produce opinion here are acting elsewhere, and even undue precipi-

tation upon our part, as much as that is to be deprecated, will not be sufficient to defeat them.

The presentment of the Grand Jury, to which I referred, was brought to the notice of the Legislature by A. Isaac Mc Knight, from Williamsburgh District, and is as follows :

Presentment of the Grand Jury.

We, the Grand Jury of Williamsburgh District, at Fall Term 1854, do make the following presentment, viz., we present, as our unanimous opinion, that the Federal law abolishing the African Slave Trade is a public grievance. We hold this trade has been, and would be, if re-established, a blessing to the American people, and a benefit to the African himself. We would show further that this trade is consistent with the true policy of the south ; that slavery itself is authorized and sanctioned by Holy Writ, and experience has taught us that, by introducing African slavery into the United States, the African has been elevated from a condition of absolute barbarism, to one of comparative civilization ; from a condition of heathen darkness, to one of Christian light ; from a condition of despotic and chaotic misrule, to one of benign and regulated law. We hold that slavery is forbidden by no principle of policy or religion, except that which springs from the frenzied imagination of fanatic philanthropy, which arrogantly assumes to be purer and holier "than what is written," and we therefore recommend this subject to the consideration and action of the Legislature of this State, and trust that the evil complained of may be remedied.

(Signed) D. M. MASON, *Foreman.*

The Committee on Coloured Population, to whom this presentment was referred, through their chairman, J. Harleston Reed, junior, made their report, of which the following is a tolerable abstract :

In reference to the state of the law upon this subject, they report that in the Constitution of the United States, it is provided that until the year 1808 no law shall be passed prohibiting this trade—but admitting the power of Congress to prohibit it after 1807. By the Act of the 2nd March, 1807, it was prohibited under severe penalties. In 1808 the penalties and punishments were increased. The Act of 1819 went a step further, and authorized national armed vessels to be sent to the coast of Africa to stop it, and the Act of the 20th May, 1819, went still further, and declaring it piracy made it punishable with death, and these several legal and Constitutional powers have been acquiesced in and sustained by the south to the present time.

In reference to the morality and policy of these enactments, the Committee say they question whether there has been a change in public sentiment upon the subject, but find the trade opposed by no considerations of philanthropy, and are decidedly of opinion that the re-establishment of the trade, under the sanction of law and commercial regulations, would confer a blessing on the African race.

They are also sensible that its re-establishment would be instrumental in peopling new and extensive slave territories, and in bringing wealth and political strength to the slave-holding States, but express the apprehension that it would occasion a great reduction in the price of slaves that this reduction would reduce the profits to be found in rearing slaves, that this would tend to drive the institution from the border States, and thus bring the cordon of free States closer and closer round us ; and they conclude their report by saying, that as no action is solicited by the presentment, and none demanded by the sentiment of our people at the present time, they have felt called upon to do no more than express their views upon its subject matter, and ask to be discharged.

This report was concurred in ; but no further action having been taken upon it, it was not printed, and I have not the opportunity, therefore, of giving it entire to your readers.

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Philadelphia*.

No. 630.

Consul Mathew to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received September 4.*)

My Lord,

Philadelphia, August 20, 1854.

A STATEMENT having very generally appeared in the public papers that the slaver "*Grey Eagle*," recently captured by one of Her Majesty's cruizers at Cuba, belonged to, and had cleared from, this port, I was naturally led to make minute inquiries in the matter, the result of which I reported to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington.

I found that this vessel had been owned by a Mr. Thomas G. Hollingsworth, and other gentlemen of Philadelphia, for the pearl-fishery off the Margharitas, but that this speculation having failed, she was advertised for sale, and, as I am assured, openly and legally sold, through a broker, to a Mr. George Marsden, of New York, on the 5th March last.

In the custom-house at New York is a record of the sale of the "*Grey Eagle*" by this George Marsden to Samuel S. Gray, of New York, on the 25th day of March.

I have reason, however, to believe that she was cleared by her captain for St. Thomas's the day previous to this stated sale.

Owing partly, I apprehend, to circumstances which came to my knowledge, and which I felt it my duty to communicate to the local authorities, legal steps were taken against the master of the vessel, who had arrived in this city from Cuba.

This person, the details of whose examination I have the honour to annex, has been fully committed for trial.

I have delayed this communication to your Lordship in the hope of being enabled to make further communication with regard to the more culpable owners of the slaver.

I regret, however, to say, that I have not been informed of any steps having been as yet taken likely to lead to their condign punishment.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE B. MATHEW.

Inclosure in No. 630.

Extracts from a Philadelphia Newspaper.

United States' Commissioners' Office.—Before Commissioner E. D. Ingraham.

An Alleged Slave Pirate.—CAPTAIN DONALD, the master of the brig "*Grey Eagle*," which recently landed a cargo of slaves on the Island of Cuba, and was seized by a British cruizer after the negroes had been landed and the captain and crew left, had a hearing before the Commissioner on Saturday afternoon.

The captain and mate made their escape to Havana, and subsequently took passage in the ship "*John Benson*" to New York. The mate died on the

passage to New York, and the captain appears to have been landed before the ship reached the city.

A United States' officer took out a warrant in New York for the apprehension of the defendant, on information given by a young man who was deceived into the voyage. The officer came on to Philadelphia, and gave information to United States' Marshal Wynkoop, who, with praiseworthy promptitude, took out a warrant for defendant, and immediately dispatched Deputy-Marshal Jenkins with the young man who gave the information in New York. Mr. Jenkins succeeded in finding the defendant at a sailors' boarding-house, and at once arrested him.

Joseph Town, sworn.—I am 17 years of age; born in Philadelphia; my uncle lives here; parents dead. This man was Captain of the "*Grey Eagle*" to the coast of Africa and to Cuba. The "*Grey Eagle*" belonged to Philadelphia, but went from New York, where I shipped in her. I shipped to go to St. Thomas's; we went to the coast of Africa instead. This man was captain of her on the voyage out; his name is Captain Donald. We took some 600 and odd negroes on board at some part of the coast of Africa; don't know the name of it. We sailed from the coast of Africa, avoiding all sails coming back to Cuba—to a part of it unknown to me. The negroes were taken off by fishermen; landed in small boats. The man who acted as captain, a Spaniard, brought the vessel back, and superintended the landing of them. This man acted as doctor for the negroes coming back. He was not called anything coming back. Had no slave-deck when we sailed; we made it going out, about twenty days after we sailed. We took the Spanish captain out as a passenger, and he and this man superintended making the slave deck. We had large casks for water. We had rice in barrels, which was afterwards shifted into bags to make room. This man told me we were going on a slaving voyage before we made the slave-deck. The mate died on the passage back. I saw no handcuffs or shackles aboard. The negroes were brought by other negroes in boats. A Spaniard came aboard in Africa, who I afterwards understood was one of the owners. The "*Grey Eagle*" was called an American vessel when I shipped aboard of her at New York. She hoisted the American flag going to the coast. I saw no flag coming, but I understood from the Portuguese of the crew that, if any flag was hoisted, it was to be the Spanish flag. I saw no flag on the homeward voyage. We were chased. They found it was a merchant-vessel chased them. A man-of-war chased us for awhile; an English man-of-war. We ran, after we had the slaves shipped. The long-boat had the small negroes in; it was on the main hatch. They were taken out during the chase, so they might not be seen, and the negro women were taken from the quarter-deck. We had all sails set during the chase. We took in the studding-sails to tack, and put her on a wind. We were sixteen or twenty days in Cuba. We were not more than a couple of hours landing the slaves in Cuba. We lost some 16 by death on the passage; we threw them overboard. Some few were born aboard.

The Commissioner asked the defendant if he had any questions to ask witness; to which he replied that he did not know him.

The Commissioner told him he would adjourn the hearing until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and notified him, in both French and English, to obtain counsel by that time.

The defendant pretends he cannot speak English, but this is only assumed.

At 4 o'clock the Commissioner further postponed the case until this morning at 10 o'clock.

The defendant denied being captain of any vessel, and says that he is only a steward. When arrested at the boarding-house by Deputy-Marshal Jenkins, neither the defendant nor any one present knew for what he was in custody, and yet the other boarders remarked that he had been the captain of the "*Grey Eagle*."

United States' Commissioners' Office.—Before Commissioner C. F. Heazlitt.

The Piracy Case.—Yesterday morning, at 8 o'clock, Captain Donald, of the brig "*Grey Eagle*," who is charged with landing 600 negroes upon the Island of Cuba recently, had a further hearing before the Commissioner. Three

of the crew of the brig, two Portuguese and one Frenchman, were examined. These witnesses were obtained in New York under the following circumstances :

United States' Marshal Wynkoop heard that a part of the crew were in New York. He di-patched United States' Deputy Jenkins to that city to spot the various sailors' boarding-houses. Jenkins, assisted by a New York United States' officer named De Angelis, soon discovered the three men above-mentioned. Jenkins telegraphed this fact to Marshal Wynkoop, who sent on Deputy-Marshal Crossin, with directions to arrest all three men and bring them on to Philadelphia. They were arrested and brought to Philadelphia on Wednesday night. Their testimony was heard yesterday morning.

The names of the witnesses are Joseph Town, the boy whose testimony has already been given to the public, Thomas Lynch, a Frenchman, and Charles Brown, a Portuguese. There was a second Portuguese, whose testimony it was not thought requisite to be taken. They had all adopted American names. Their testimony, in every particular, corroborated that given by the boy Town, which in substance was, that they were shipped in New York in March last, to go to St. Thomas's and other ports. The shipping articles were produced, which contained the names of the sailors and the destination of the vessel. After they had been out about twenty-five days, the crew were informed by the defendant that they were going to the coast of Africa for a load of negroes. The crew, up to that time, were not aware of the destination of the vessel, and did not then object, because there was no other remedy. They landed first at Cape Palmas, and proceeded thence to Cajuda,* about four days' sail, and there took in the load of slaves, 600 and odd in number. There were about 250 women and 50 children. The Spanish captain seemed to have the principal command after the slaves were taken on board; but the vessel was jointly navigated by both captains. On arriving at the Island of Cuba the vessel was run into a creek, and the slaves landed under the protection of the police, the crew being afraid of the soldiers. The head policeman, a Governor, was bribed for this purpose, 32,000 dollars having been paid him, according to the testimony of these witnesses. The slaves were taken in the night to the plantation of Don Louis, which occupied about six hours' travel over a bad road. The next night the crew also went to the plantation of Don Louis, where they remained for several days in a sugar loft, until a small schooner was procured to take the crew to Havana. They were paid, at Don Louis' plantation, 450 dollars éach, in addition to their wages. On arriving at Havana they were told that each person must look out for himself, and arrived in the United States on board of different vessels. The boy Town made a statement to the American Consul at Havana, and was sent to the United States in custody.

The defendant was finally committed for trial at the next term of the Circuit Court, and the witnesses also, to testify, in default of bail.

Guillon for the defendant.

* Whydah.

VENEZUELA.

No. 631.

Mr. Bingham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 17.)

My Lord,

Caracas, April 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, in translation, a copy of the Law which entirely abolishes slavery in Venezuela; and I feel highly gratified at having it in my power to make a communication which will afford so much satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHD. BINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 631.

Law abolishing Slavery in Venezuela.

(Translation.)

THE Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Venezuela, in Congress assembled, do hereby enact:

Article 1. Slavery is for ever abolished in Venezuela.

Art. 2. The legal obligation of the manumitted to render their services, ceases, they being in full enjoyment of liberty, and bound only to paternal authority or their ascendants as freeborn.

Art. 3. The introduction of slaves is for ever prohibited in the Republic, and those that may be introduced against the tenour of this injunction, under any pretext whatever, will thereby immediately enter into the enjoyment of liberty.

Art. 4. The owners of slaves shall be compensated for their value, according to tariff thereon, or by decision of competent judges, if they be diseased, by the funds assigned or to be assigned to that object, in equitable proportion; credits against the compensation fund being receivable in payment of the contributions to be established by this Law.

Art. 5. The following sums are assigned for the indemnity referred to in the preceding Article, viz.:

1. The 10 per cent. which, according to law, the provincial funds pay into the public Treasury.

2. The sums to accrue from the tax established for three years on rum-stills, at the rate of 5 reals on each gallon measurement of four and a-half bottles.

3. The sum to accrue from the tax established for three years on the following persons, namely: 5 dollars, annually, on those that possess the requisite income to be an elector; 10 dollars, annually, on those persons possessing an income to make them eligible as Provincial Deputy, Representative, or Senator.

4. The sum to accrue from the tax established during three years on every citizen receiving a salary, pension, or commission whatsoever, from public

monies or municipal rents, viz. : 2 per cent. on those that receive a lower sum than 800 dollars ; 3 per cent. on those that receive from 800 to 1,600 dollars ; 5 per cent. on those that receive from 1,600 to 3,000 dollars ; and 10 per cent. on those that have upwards of 3,000 dollars.

5. The funds collected and to be collected pertaining to the Manumission Board, as per law in vigour up to date.

6. The proportion of register duty belonging to the nation, when the object to which it was assigned, as per Article 38 of the Law, on the matter shall cease.

7. The 3 per cent. on the amount of the property of persons deceased without leaving collateral heirs.

8. The 20 per cent. on the amount of the property of persons deceased leaving foreign heirs.

9. The net value of the property of persons deceased *ab intestato*, and that leave no heirs in a degree to make them heirs by law.

§. Persons included in more than one of the cases specified in this Article, shall pay only the highest tax corresponding ; and those that shall have granted freedom to their slaves since the 1st of February last, up to the sanction of this law, will be exempted from all or any contribution.

Art. 6. In order to collect the aforesaid taxes, and to perform other acts that will be indicated, superior "juntas" will be organised in the principal cantons of provinces, composed of the Governor, as its President, the senior Parish Priest or Vicar, the Municipal Attorney, and the Citizens appointed by the Executive Power ; and inferior juntas in the capitals of the other cantons, composed of the Political Chief, as the President, the Curate of the parish, the Municipal Attorney, and two Citizens appointed by the Superior Board.

§. Each Board will appoint a treasurer, who must combine the requisite conditions for a Senator—honesty and probity—and give a surety to the satisfaction of the Corporation, by whom he is elected, to be the depositary of the funds designated by this law, which by no means must enter the national Treasury. The Treasurer of the capital of the Republic will be entitled to draw 4 per cent. on monies collected, and those of the other departments 10 per cent.

Art. 7. Any other posts to be created for the execution of this law will be deemed municipal posts (without emolument).

Art. 8. As soon as this law be published, the juntas, referred to in Article 6, shall meet, and will proceed immediately to form a census of the slaves resident in the province, with due specification of their owners, their age, and value.

Art. 9. In order to facilitate the formation of the census, the former owners and slaves themselves, now enjoying liberty, are bound to appear before the respective juntas within the peremptory term of four months, to date from the publication of this law, in their respective neighbourhoods, the owners being obliged to produce the titles proving their former proprietorship.

Art. 10. The juntas must meet every three months, to inspect the funds collected, and to examine the accounts of the treasurers respectively ; the subaltern or inferior juntas reporting the result to the superior ones, and these to the Executive Power.

Art. 11. At the closing of the census of each province, a copy of it shall be forwarded to the Executive Power, in order to form and publish the general one, including all the slaves existing in the Republic that are favoured by this law ; so that all the authorities of the land being duly apprised of said result, double compensation may not be exacted for the same slave in two or more places.

Art. 12. At the meeting of the juntas, in conformity with the 10th Article, the existing funds will be divided, *pro rata*, among the creditors.

Art. 13. Any fraud committed in the management of the Compensation Fund, assigned by Article 6, will be punished by the reimbursement of the defrauded monies, together with a sentence of from one to ten years galleys, and to become for ever incapable of holding any public trust ; which penalties will be simultaneously imposed.

Art. 14. The contribution and funds, referred to in Article 5, can never be assigned by any authority or corporation to any other purpose, whatever may be the sum or the end intended.

Art. 15. The Executive Power will issue a regulation on this law, and will use every means to enforce its execution, and to prevent, in its operation, any

fraud or abuse, and will fill any deficiency observed in the course of its action. He must likewise report annually to Congress the sums collected, their application, the names of creditors, those that are paid, and what remains due on account of the abolition of slavery in Venezuela.

Art. 16. The Law of the 28th of April, 1848, on manumission, and the Decree of the 15th of May, 1852, assigning 10 per cent. to the payment of what the national rents are indebted to the provincial funds, are hereby repealed.

Given in Caracas, on the 23rd of March, 1854, in the 25th year of the Law, and the 44th of the Independence.

The President of the Senate,
(Signed) RAFAEL HENRIQUEZ.
The President of the House of Representatives,
J. A. FERNANDEZ.
The Secretary of the Senate,
J. A. PEREZ.
The Secretary of the House of Representatives,
J. PADILLA.

Caracas, March 24, 1854.

Let it be executed.

(Signed) J. G. MONAGAS.
For his Excellency the Secretary of State in the Departments
of the Interior, Justice, and Foreign Affairs,
SIMON PLANAS.

No. 632.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Bingham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 26, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a Law which was passed by the Venezuelan Senate on the 24th of March last, by which slavery is entirely abolished in the territories of the Republic; and I have in reply to instruct you to express to the Venezuelan Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the adoption of this wise and humane measure by the Legislature of Venezuela.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 633.

Mr. Bingham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Caracas, June 26, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, instructing me to express to the Venezuelan Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt that slavery is entirely abolished in the territories of the Republic, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the note which, in obedience to that instruction, I have addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHD. BINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 633.

Mr. Bingham to M. Planas.

Caracas, June 25, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., having duly transmitted to his Government a copy of the Law which was passed by the Venezuelan Senate on the 24th of March last, by which slavery is entirely abolished in the territories of the Republic, has been instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to express to the Venezuelan Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the adoption of this wise and humane measure by the Legislature of Venezuela.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

RICHD. BINGHAM.

No. 634.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Bingham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which was addressed to me on the 18th of May last by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hamburgh, reporting that a Brazilian vessel called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which had long been a notorious slaver, had arrived at Bremen for the purpose, as it was supposed, of fitting out at that port for a slave-trading voyage. It appears that the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" was compelled, by the opposition of the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburgh, and by the vigilance of the Bremen authorities, to abandon her illegal undertaking, and that she was sold by the master to a Bremen merchant, who changed her name to the "*Wolda*," and obtained papers giving her Bremen nationality.

You will learn further from the inclosed copy of a despatch dated the 1st instant,† which I have received from Colonel Hodges, that the "*Wolda*" sailed from Bremen on the 31st of October for La Guayra or Puerto Cabello, and I have to instruct you to take steps, in order that any suspicious movements of this vessel may be reported to the Admiral Commanding-in-chief on the West India Station, and to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 635.

Mr. Bingham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 24, 1855.)

My Lord,

Caracas, December 12, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 16th ultimo, and its inclosures, respecting the vessel "*Don Pedro Segundo*," formerly a notorious Brazilian slaver, reported by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hamburgh to have sailed from Bremen on the 1st of October last, for La Guayra or Puerto Cabello, after changing her name to the "*Wolda*," and obtaining papers giving her Bremen nationality, I have the honour to inclose herewith copy of a letter which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at La Guayra, desiring him to inform me of any suspicious movements of this vessel, in order that I may report them to the Admiral Commanding-in-chief on the West India Station, and to Her Majesty's Government.

I have addressed this day a similar instruction to the British Acting Vice-Consul at Puerto Cabello.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RICHD. BINGHAM.

* No. 233.

† No. 247.

Inclosure in No. 635.

Mr. Bingham to Acting Vice-Consul Stacey.

Sir,

Caracas, December 12, 1854.

THE Earl of Clarendon has transmitted to me a copy of a despatch, dated the 18th of May last, from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hamburgh, reporting that a Brazilian vessel, called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which had long been a notorious slaver, had arrived at Bremen, for the purpose, as it was supposed, of fitting out at that port for a slave-trading voyage.

It appears that the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" was compelled, by the opposition of the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburgh, and by the vigilance of the Bremen authorities, to abandon her illegal undertaking, and that she was sold by the master to a Bremen merchant, who changed her name to the "*Wolda*," and obtained papers giving her Bremen nationality.

From a copy of a subsequent despatch from Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon, dated the 1st ultimo, I learn further that the "*Wolda*" sailed from Bremen on the 31st of October last, for La Guayra or Puerto Cabello; and I have to instruct you to delay not in informing me of any suspicious movements of this vessel, in order that I may report them to the Admiral commanding-in-chief on the West India Station, and to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RICHD. BINGHAM.

No. 636.

Mr. Bingham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 24, 1855.)

My Lord,

Caracas, December 17, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th instant, inclosing copy of a letter which I had addressed to Mr. Vice-Consul Stacey, at La Guayra, respecting the vessel the "*Wolda*," reported to your Lordship, by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hamburgh, to have sailed from Bremen on the 31st of October last, for the coast of Venezuela, under somewhat singular circumstances, I have the honour to inclose herewith copy of a letter from Mr. Stacey, in reply thereto, stating that the said vessel arrived at Puerto Cabello on the 7th instant but that after minute inquiry at that place in regard to her movements, he entertains no reason whatever for doubting that she is now engaged in a perfectly lawful trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHD. BINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 636.

Vice-Consul Stacey to Mr. Bingham.

Sir,

La Guayra, December 14, 1854.

IN reply to your despatch under date of the 12th instant, respecting the Bremen barque "*Wolda*," the former notorious Brazilian slaver "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which left Bremen on the 31st of October last, destined to one of the ports of this Republic, I have the honour to inform you that the "*Wolda*" reached Puerto Cabello, in ballast, on the 7th instant, consigned to Mr. Edward Brandt, of that port, to receive on board there a cargo of cedar, fustic, and other woods, on account of her owner Mr. Jacob Jung, now of Bremen, but who formerly resided in Caracas, and there carried on an extensive business as a joiner and cabinet-maker.

Having been myself informed, when in Puerto Cabello, two days ago, of the nefarious Traffic in which the "*Wolda*," as the Brazilian brig "*Don Pedro Segundo*," had been previously engaged, I made every possible inquiry respecting

her ; and, from what I learnt, have no reason whatever to doubt her now being engaged in a legitimate commercial trade.

The cargo of wood which I witnessed being taken on board the "*Wolda*" had been prepared for her against her arrival at Puerto Cabello, and she will be dispatched from thence for Bremen again in a few days.

The "*Wolda*" made the run from Bremen to Puerto Cabello in thirty-six days—an unusually short time ; whilst of late, all other vessels from Europe to these ports have made long passages.

I shall not fail to use every diligence in having the movements of the "*Wolda*" watched during the time she may remain on this coast ; and I shall immediately communicate with you should I learn of the least thing suspicious in them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRED. STACEY.

SLAVE TRADE (SHERBRO).

COPIES of TREATIES with NATIVE CHIEFS of the *Sherbro* Country for the
SUPPRESSION of the SLAVE TRADE.

Colonial Office, }
July 1855. }

JOHN BALL.

COPIES of TREATIES with NATIVE CHIEFS of the *Sherbro* Country for the
SUPPRESSION of the SLAVE TRADE.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES to the Treaty between *Benjamin Chilley Campbell Pine*, Esquire, Acting Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone, and *Hugh Dunlop*, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Alert," and Senior Officer of the Northern Division of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the West Coast of Africa, on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and *Careybah Caulker*, Chief of Bompey, and *Thomas Stephen Caulker*, Chief of the Plantain Islands, and other Chiefs of the *Sherbro* Country, Parties thereto, Friends and Allies of the said *Careybah Caulker* and *Thomas Stephen Caulker*; signed at Tasso, in the *Sherbro* Country, the 4th day of July 1849.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further additions to the aforesaid Treaty.

It is therefore hereby agreed between his Excellency, Arthur Edward Kennedy, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the colony of Sierra Leone and its Dependencies, Vice-Admiral, Chancellor and Ordinary of the same, on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and the aforesaid *Careybah Caulker*, Chief of Bompey, and *Thomas Stephen Caulker*, Chief of the Plantain Islands, *Pierre Charley*, King of *Sherbro*, *Harry Tucker*, Chief of *Shebar*, and *William Tucker*, Chief of *Bullom* and *Boom* Rivers:

1. The Cruisers of the British Government, or any officer deputed by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, whenever they fall in with any vessels or boats belonging to the people of *Sherbro* suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, or with any vessels or boats belonging to other nations within the waters of the Chiefs of *Sherbro* suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, may detain and search them, and in case of their finding that any of the vessels or boats aforesaid belonging to the people of *Sherbro* have violated this engagement, by the exportation of slaves from the Coasts of Africa or elsewhere, or that the vessels and boats belonging to other nations have been engaged in the Slave Trade within the waters of the Chiefs of *Sherbro* upon any pretext whatever, they (the Government cruisers or officers deputed by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone) may seize and confiscate the same; and the vessels and boats so seized shall be taken to Sierra Leone, to be tried by English law: and when condemned shall be sold, and the produce of the sale shall be divided equally between the Queen of England and the chief or chiefs of *Sherbro*, and the slaves who were found on board shall be made free.

2. The Queen of England shall have the right to demand the surrender of criminals or other persons, being British subjects, or liberated Africans, or

others, resident in Sierra Leone, accused of any crime or offence, committed within the colony of Sierra Leone or its dependencies, cognisable by the laws of England, for the purpose of being tried for such offence in Sierra Leone, or such British colony as the Queen of England may think fit to appoint. And the chiefs of Sherbro, parties to this treaty, hereby bind themselves to secure and surrender all British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, who may be charged with any crime or offence, as aforesaid, upon demand being made for them, by His Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, or any other competent authority.

3. The Queen of England shall have also the right to demand the surrender of criminals or other persons, being British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, charged with any crime or offence committed within the territories of the chiefs of Sherbro, cognisable by the laws of England, for the purpose of being tried for such offence in Sierra Leone or such British colony as the Queen of England may think fit to appoint. And the Chiefs of Sherbro, parties to this treaty, hereby bind themselves to secure and surrender all British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others resident in Sierra Leone, who may be charged with any crime or offence as aforesaid, upon demand being made for them by His Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone or any other competent authority.

4. English people may buy and sell, or hire lands and houses in the Sherbro country, and their houses shall not be entered without their consent, nor shall their goods be seized nor their persons touched; and if English people are wronged or ill-treated by the people of Sherbro, the Chiefs of Sherbro shall punish those who wrong or ill-treat the English people.

5. But English people must not break the laws of the Sherbro country, and when they are accused of breaking the laws, the chiefs shall send a true account of the matter to the nearest place where there is an English force, and the commander of such English force shall send for the English person, who shall be tried according to English law, and shall be punished if found guilty.

6. If the Sherbro people should take away the property of an English person, the Chiefs of Sherbro shall do all they can to make the Sherbro people restore the property and pay the debt; and if English persons should take away the property of the Sherbro people, or should not pay their just debts to the Sherbro people, the Chiefs shall make known the facts to the commander of the English force nearest to the Sherbro country, or to the resident agent, if there is one; and the English commander, or the agent, whichever it may be, shall do all he can to make the English persons restore the property and pay the debt.

Done at Freetown, Sierra Leone, this 31st day of March, in the year of our Lord 1853, and of Her Majesty's reign the sixteenth.

(signed) *A. E. Kennedy*, Governor. (L.S.)

^{his}
Careybah + Caulker, Chief of Bompey. (L.S.)

^{mark.}
Thomas S. Caulker, Chief of Plantain Islands. (L.S.)

^{his}
Harry + Tucker, Chief of Shebar. (L.S.)

^{mark.}
^{his}
Pierre + Charley, King of Sherbro. (L.S.)

^{mark.}
William Tucker, Chief of Bullom and Boom Rivers. (L.S.)

Witnesses :

(signed) *John Carr*, Chief Justice.
J. F. Smyth, Colonial Secretary.
Charles Fortune.
C. H. Tucker.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES to the Treaty between *Benjamin Chilley Campbell Pine*, Esquire, Acting Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone, and *Hugh Dunlop*, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Alert," and Senior Officer of the Northern Division of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the West Coast of Africa, on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and *Careybah Caulker*, Chief of the Bompey, and *Thomas Stephen Caulker*, Chief of the Plantain Islands, and other Chiefs of the Sherbro Country, Parties thereto, Friends and Allies of the said *Careybah Caulker* and *Thomas Stephen Caulker*; signed at Tasso, in the Sherbro Country, the 4th day of July 1849.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further additions to the aforesaid Treaty.

It is therefore hereby agreed between Thomas Stephen Caulker, Chief of the Plantain Islands, Commissioner, duly authorised and empowered by his Excellency Arthur Edward Kennedy, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the colony of Sierra Leone and its dependencies, Vice-Admiral, Chancellor, and Ordinary of the same, on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Ibiboo Salifoo Calipha and Cabouka, also Chiefs in and about the Sherbro Country, Pah Rakey, Chief of "Baly," "Somanker," Chief of "Tassomanker," "Soloko," Chief of "Robannah:"

1. The cruisers of the British Government, or any officer deputed by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, whenever they fall in with any vessels or boats belonging to the people of Sherbro, suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, or with any vessels or boats belonging to other nations within the waters of the Chiefs of Sherbro, suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, may detain and search them; and in case of their finding that any of the vessels or boats aforesaid, belonging to the people of Sherbro, have violated this engagement, by the exportation of slaves from the coasts of Africa or elsewhere, or that the vessels and boats belonging to other nations have been engaged in the Slave Trade within the waters of the Chiefs of Sherbro, upon any pretext whatever, they (the Government cruisers or officers deputed by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone) may seize and confiscate the same, and the vessels and boats so seized shall be taken to Sierra Leone to be tried by English law, and when condemned shall be sold, and the produce of the sale shall be divided equally between the Queen of England and the Chief or Chiefs of Sherbro, and the slaves who were found on board shall be free.

2. The Queen of England shall have the right to demand the surrender of criminals, or other persons, being British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, accused of any crime or offence committed within the colony of Sierra Leone or its dependencies, cognisable by the laws of England, for the purpose of being tried for such offence in Sierra Leone, or such British colony as the Queen of England may think fit to appoint. And the Chiefs of Sherbro, parties to this treaty, hereby bind themselves to secure and surrender all British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, who may be charged with any crime or offence as aforesaid, upon demand being made for them by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, or any other competent authority.

3. The Queen of England shall have also the right to demand the surrender of criminals, or other persons, being British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, charged with any crime or offence committed within the territories of the Chiefs of Sherbro, cognisable by the laws of England, for the purpose of being tried for such offence in Sierra Leone, or such British colony as the Queen of England may think fit to appoint. And the Chiefs of Sherbro, parties to this treaty, hereby bind themselves to secure and surrender all British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, who may be charged with any crime or offence as aforesaid, upon demand being made for them by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, or any other competent authority.

4. English people may buy and sell or hire lands and houses in the Sherbro Country, and their houses shall not be entered without their consent, nor shall

their goods be seized, nor their persons touched; and if English people are wronged or ill-treated by the people of Sherbro, the Chiefs of Sherbro shall punish those who wrong or ill-treat the English people.

5. But English people must not break the laws of the Sherbro country, and when they are accused of breaking the laws, the Chiefs shall send a true account of the matter to the nearest place where there is an English force, and the commander of such English force shall send for the English person, who shall be tried according to English law, and shall be punished if found guilty.

6. If the Sherbro people should take away the property of an English person, the Chiefs of Sherbro shall do all they can to make the Sherbro people restore the property and pay the debt; and if English persons should take away the property of the Sherbro people, or should not pay their just debts to the Sherbro people, the Chiefs shall make known the facts to the commander of the English force nearest to the Sherbro country, or to the resident agent, if there is one; and the English commander, or agent, whichever it may be, shall do all he can to make the English persons restore the property and pay the debt.

Done at Bendoo, this 9th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1853, and in the 16th year of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

(signed) ^{his}
Ibiboo × *Salifoo*, Chief of Jong. (L. S.)
mark.

^{his}
Mahamadoo × *Calipha*, Chief of Barmah. (L. S.)
mark.

Done at Marnow, in Bagroo, this 19th day of May, in the year of Our Lord 1853, in the sixteenth year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

(signed) ^{his}
Cabouka × Chief of Bagroo.
mark.

^{his}
Pah Rakey × Chief of Baly.
mark.

Witnesses :

(signed) *Nathl. Nathan.*
J. W. Smith.

Done at Tassomanker, this 21st day of May, in the year of our Lord 1853, and in the sixteenth year of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

(signed) ^{his}
Somankee, × Chief of Tassomanker.
mark.

^{his}
Soloko × Chief of Robannah.
mark.

} Bagroo River.

Witnesses :

(signed) *Nathl. Nathan.*
J. W. Smith.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES to the Treaty between *Benjamin Chilly Campbell Pine*, Esquire, Acting Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone, and *Hugh Dunlop*, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Alert," and Senior Officer of the Northern Division of Her Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the West Coast of Africa, on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and *Caureybah Caulker*, Chief of Bompey, and *Thomas Stephen Caulker*, Chief of the Plantain Islands, and other Chiefs of the Sherbro Country, Parties thereto, Friends and Allies of the said *Caureybah Caulker*, and *Thomas Stephen Caulker*; signed at Tasso, in the Sherbro Country, the 4th day of July 1849.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further additions to the aforesaid Treaty.

It is therefore hereby agreed between his Excellency Arthur Edward Kennedy, Captain-general and Governor-in-chief in and over the colony of Sierra Leone and its dependencies, Vice-Admiral, Chancellor, and Ordinary of the same, on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Kanray Coomba, and John Fortune :

1. The cruisers of the British Government, or any officer deputed by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, whenever they fall in with any vessels or boats belonging to the people of Sherbro, suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, or with any vessels or boats belonging to other nations within the waters of the Chiefs of the Sherbro, suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, may detain and search them, and in case of their finding that any of the vessels or boats aforesaid belonging to the people of Sherbro have violated this engagement, by the exportation of slaves from the coasts of Africa or elsewhere, or that the vessels and boats belonging to other nations have been engaged in the Slave Trade within the waters of the Chiefs of Sherbro, upon any pretext whatever, they (the Government cruisers or officers deputed by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone) may seize and confiscate the same, and the vessels and boats so seized shall be taken to Sierra Leone to be tried by English law, and when condemned shall be sold, and the produce of the sale shall be divided equally between the Queen of England and the Chief or Chiefs of Sherbro, and the slaves who were found on board shall be made free.

2. The Queen of England shall have the right to demand the surrender of criminals, or other persons, being British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, accused of any crime or offence committed within the colony of Sierra Leone or its dependencies, cognisable by the laws of England, for the purpose of being tried for such offence in Sierra Leone, or such British colony as the Queen of England may think fit to appoint. And the Chiefs of Sherbro, parties to this treaty, hereby bind themselves to secure and surrender all British subjects or liberated Africans, or others resident in Sierra Leone, who may be charged with any crime or offence as aforesaid, upon demand being made for them by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, or any other competent authority.

3. The Queen of England shall have also the right to demand the surrender of criminals, or other persons, being British subjects or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, charged with any crime or offence committed within the territories of the Chiefs of Sherbro, cognisable by the laws of England, for the purpose of being tried for such offence in Sierra Leone, or such British colony as the Queen of England may think fit to appoint. And the Chiefs of Sherbro, parties to this treaty, bind themselves to secure and surrender all British subjects, or liberated Africans, or others, resident in Sierra Leone, who may be charged with any crime or offence as aforesaid, upon demand being made for them by his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone, or any other competent authority.

4. English people may buy and sell, or hire lands and houses in the Sherbro country, and their houses shall not be entered without their consent, nor shall their goods be seized nor their persons touched; and if English people

6 TREATIES: - FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

are wronged or ill-treated by the people of Sherbro, the Chiefs of Sherbro shall punish those who wrong or ill-treat the English people.

5. But English people must not break the laws of the Sherbro country ; and when they are accused of breaking the law, the Chiefs shall send a true account of the matter to the nearest place where there is an English force ; and the commander of such English force shall send for the English person, who shall be tried according to English law, and shall be punished if found guilty.

6. If the Sherbro people should take away the property of an English person, the Chiefs of Sherbro shall do all they can to make the Sherbro people restore the property, and pay the debt ; and if English persons should take away the property of the Sherbro people, or should not pay their just debts to the Sherbro people, the Chiefs shall make known the facts to the commander of the English force nearest to the Sherbro country, or to the resident agent, if there is one ; and the English commander or the agent, whichever it may be, shall do all he can to make the English persons restore the property and pay the debt.

Done at Freetown, Sierra Leone, this 17th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1854, and of Her Majesty's reign the seventeenth.

(signed) ^{his}
John × *Fortune*. (L. S.)
mark.

A. E. Kennedy, Governor. (L. S.)

Witnesses :

(signed) *W. Kynaston Jolliffe*.
John M'Cormack.

SLAVE TRADE (SHERBRO).

COPIES OF TREATIES WITH NATIVE CHIEFS OF THE
Sherbro COUNTRY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE.

(Presented to Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
20 July 1855.

